FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REPORTAGE ON NINTH SELA MEETING IN CARACAS

Iglesias Addresses Bankers

FL211037 Bridgetown CANA in English 0958 GMT 21 Sep 83

[By Keith Grant]

[Text] Caracas, Sep 21, CANA-REUTER -- World economic recovery alone is unlikely to resolve Latin America's financial crisis unless the region receives more relief from its debt burden and improved terms of trade, a leading regional economist has said. Enrique Iglesias, secretary-general of the U.N. Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), was addressing a four-day conference of regional central bank governors that began here Monday.

Governors from Latin America, Spain and the Philippines, representing 27 countries, have begun discussions on a common position to present to the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank later this month. They also heard proposals for coordination of policies in renegotiating the region's 320 billion dollar foreign debt, and a new Latin American Unit of Account to reduce the region's dependence on scarce hard currency.

Delegates said the conference has reviewed a number of papers suggesting ways of resolving the region's trade, debt and liquidity problems, but was unlikely to issue any specific recommendations. They said these will be formulated by a working group to be set up by the bank governors before the conference ends today and presented to the IMF meeting. The largely technical discussions follow a regional debt conference held in Caracas earlier this month, where Latin America called for better terms for repaying its debt and greater access for its exports.

Iglesias has told the session that Latin America must be prepared for a prolonged financial crisis. Just to prevent a further dwindling of its foreign reserves this year it must raise its global trade surplus to 25 billion dollars from last year's 7.3 billion. He said while a debtors club is impractical, Latin America must cooperate on debt and other problems through exchange of information and technical assistance. Debtors should also seek more equitable adjustment processes and maximize use of trade financing mechanisms, he said.

Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) Secretary-General Julio Cesar Schupp called for less regional trade protectionism and proposed a three-part plan to strengthen financing mechanisms. "Latin American countries aim at maximizing precious foreign exchange by building up exports, but by also restricting imports they have created a vicious circle that is limiting their export potential," Schupp said. His plan consists of a multilateral trade clearing house, similar to that operating under the 1965 Mexico Agreement, a new special Latin American Unit of Account (UMLA) to finance trade and monetary imbalances, and a Latin American Cooperation Fund (FCML) to channel these operations.

The UMLA would become a reserve asset for Latin American countries, and could be used to compensate hard currency deficits in regional central banks brought about by negative trade flows. Schupp said it could be based on the dollar or special drawing rights, and allocated according to each country's trade standing. The fund could be capitalized from member subscriptions and placement of financial instruments in international financial markets, Schupp said. He said the Montevideo-based ALADI will continue studies on these proposals and expects to take firm decisions by the end of this year.

Cuba's Fernandez Cossio Speaks

FL212304 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1832 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Text] Jose Fernandez Cossio, vice president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, asserted in Caracas that the only alternative for Latin America to overcome the crisis is interregional cooperation. The chief of the Cuban delegation to the ninth SELA meeting said Latin America has no other choice but to begin to make maximum efforts to achieve interregional cooperation. He stressed that this is the only way for it to increase its trade and economic and industrial cooperation, while strengthening its bargaining power with developed countries.

Fernandez Cossio expressed Cuba's satisfaction over the fact that the ninth SELA meeting had served as the setting where the region had expressed its resolute and firm solidarity with Nicaraguan when it condemned the economic measures applied by the United States.

Fernandez Cossio reminded the SELA meeting that Cuba suffers additional effects from coercive measures aimed at damaging its economic development. He emphasized that, despite the continuing harrassment to which it has been subjected, the Cuban economy registered a growth of 3.1 percent in 1982. He referred to the economic crisis that has hit Latin America, to the region's foreign debt, which now stands at over $300 billion, and to the $35 billion that it must pay every year when it has new external resources of only $20 billion.

The chief of the Cuban delegation noted that by the year 2000 Latin America will have a population of 637 million inhabitants and the economies of the countries of the area lack the resources to respond to that challenge.

Meeting Calls for Joint Actions

PA220331 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2231 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Report by Miguel Gil]

[Text] Caracas, 21 Sep (EFE) -- The ninth meeting of the SELA Council ended today with a call for combined actions to overcome the regional economic crisis. A final document listed the main proposals made during this SELA Council meeting held in Caracas to analyze the most serious problems being experienced by Latin America.

Regional cooperation seems to be the only way these countries can find the solutions to the heavy burden of a foreign debt estimated at $300 billion. The attitude of SELA member-countries, which have not fully followed integrationist principles and have maintained a low level of interregional trade, was criticized at this meeting. It was stated in the meeting that most Latin American countris continue importing large quantities of merchandise from industrialized countries. This type of merchandise, according to the SELA analysis, are also produced in Latin America in many cases, and do not have a market because of the lack of initiative on the part of buyers and sellers.

In addition to the necessary self-criticism, the Caracas meeting analyzed the U.S. attitude toward this region and concluded that it continues to maintain a policy that is very far from that of a "good neighbor." The delegates of the 26 SELA member-countries criticized the U.S. attitude toward Nicaragua and agreed to ask the government of President Reagan to lift the economic sanctions against that country.

It was also noted that it is not fair for the United States to close its doors to many Latin American products because of tariffs. The final text stated that "the United States will be urged to change its economic policies, particularly those that, because of international implications, have resulted in a substantial deterioration of the economic situation in the countries of the region."

Another point approved during the meeting was that regarding Latin American relations with the EEC. SELA authorities were asked to reactivate dialogue so that a commercial exchange can now be implemented in a just and balanced way.

In his closing speech Carlos Alzamora, the outgoing permanent secretary, stressed that the great economic crisis in the region must be faced with courage and unity. He reproached any divisionist attitude that might become evident in dealings with international banks and asked SELA members to form a single bloc to achieve substantial improvement in conditions for the renegotiation of the foreign debt. During the meeting Alzamora made the foreign debt his key issue and noted that this is the heaviest burden affecting progress in the region.

Sebastian Algrett, the new SELA permanent secretary, who is a Venezuelan, gave the closing speech and said that "this meeting has been the most important yet." He stressed that the integrationist organization will continue its struggle with more enthusiasm in order to achieve specific actions to overcome the common problems of the region.

At the conclusion Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo bade farewell to the delegates as president of the ministerial meeting. Lloreda Caicedo joined Alzamora and Alegrett in stressing that nothing can be done to solve Latin America's great economic problems unless combined actions are undertaken.

The Caracas meeting concluded with a call to all SELA member-countries to implement the recommendations that have been made and to make economic cooperation a reality, not mere words.

January Meeting Announced

FL211729 Bridgetown CANA in English 1411 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Text] Caracas, Sep 21, CANA-REUTER -- Latin American countries will hold a high-level conference in Quito next January to discuss action to resolve the region's economic crisis, Latin American Economic System (SELA) officials said. The conference, which could be at head of state level, will review steps on foreign debt, raw materials supplies and regional trade cooperation.

Among financial measures to be discussed are mechanisms to stimulate regional trade, creation of a regional unit of account, balance of payments support mechanisms, and general steps to increase liquidity.

The officials said a preparatory meeting of experts will take place early November in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The conference was called in August by government representatives in the Dominican Republic where a decision was taken to organize Latin America's response to the crisis and reinforce mechanisms of cooperation and integration.

NICARAGUA'S TUNNERMAN ADDRESSES CIECC MEETING

FL202200 Bridgetown CANA in English 2045 GMT 20 Sep 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept. 20, CANA -- Nicaragua Educational Minister Carlos Tunnerman said here today his leftist ruled country faced a challenge to design a fresh education process for the "new society" being developed there. Tunnerman spoke at the fourteenth regular meeting of the Inter-American Council for Education, Science, and Culture (CIECC), as heads of delegations discussed informally the challenges of change facing the Americas.

Tunnerman said Nicaragua's principal objectives in this sphere were to "prepare qualified human resources by our revolutionary process and to develop a socio-economic model that sustains the Sandinists political programme, to offer this education to all Nicaraguans, with priority given to the popular classes." and to "transmit and spread the (?rules) of the Sandinista popular revolution and of the new society that the new process is trying to edify."

According to Tunnerman, the education programme of the Sandinista revolution stemmed from the adoption of the principle that "education must be popular, critical and liberating, in order to guarantee the hegemony of the people in the conduction of the revolutionary process."

He criticized the education and culture of capitalist societies, which are characterized by the "privileges of the few."

Education was "indispensable for the construction of a new society, of a new man, for the creation of a popular culture," Tunnerman said.

He also spoke of the national campaign against illiteracy and the transition to post-literacy, with which Nicaragua erased all the attributes traditionally assigned to the teacher.

Defining the characteristics of education in his country, Tunnerman said that it is "insurrectional", because it implied a decidedly militant focus on problems "popular," because it carried out [as received] by the people, for people "political," because it is inscribed within the national reality, "democratic," because it is not only directed toward the popular masses and procures their active, organized, and conscious participation.

Nicaragua's education was also "integral", because it blended attention to the requirements of physical, intellectual, spiritual, emotional, esthetic, and moral developments of the student, "permanent", because it is not limited to a particular age group, "humanistic," in terms of man being its subject and its object.

"And in the manner in which it reconciles the individual with his group, it is a liberating education, forging free and responsible beings, critical, masters of themselves, creators in concert with the collective destiny," Tunnerman said.

The Nicaraguan minister said he was the year 200 [as received] as "an image of a growing society in an advanced world, in which the domination of science and technology will pass to the great majority and will cease to be the exclusive domain of groups of privilege and power."

Nicaragua, he said, was trying to realize this aspiration through "a defined political programme which has as its heritage underdevelopment, dependence, and backwardness, legacies from a half century of dictatorship, and which has its [as received] fundamental goal the material and spiritual well-being of all people, toward which end we foment a process of social structural change."

He added: "In Nicaragua we are in the midst of a profound change of economic and social structures and a new power is being constituted: popular power, power finally in the hands of its own people, who have assumed, with decision, the role of protagonist."

ANDEAN NUCLEAR ENERGY MEETING ANNOUNCED

PA241657 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Sep 83 p 8-a

[Text] Delegations of the five Andean Group countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela) will gather in Bogota from 26 to 30 September to study a regional cooperation program on nuclear energy and its peaceful uses.

The agenda they will study includes many areas of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, Ernesto Villarreal Silva, director of the Colombian Nuclear Affairs Institute, IAN, and promoter of this regional meeting, has reported.

The topics to be discussed include: the definition of a safety program to prevent radiation of population; the establishment of laboratories for secondary calibration to serve as a standard for radioactive sources used in these countries; the development of vaccinations to fight diseases experienced by cattle; the use of intense sources of radiation in sterilization processes, etc.

The IAN director explained that regarding the Andean area, Peru "is building a second research reactor of 10,000-kW; Venezuela has focused most of its activity on a 3,000-kW reactor that has been operating for several years; Ecuador and Colombia are studying the construction of 3,000-kW research reactors. [quotation as published]

The Andean meeting will be attended by the following heads of delegations: Julio Cesar Pineda, director of the National Council for the Development of the Nuclear Industry in Venezuela, Azucena Garzon, executive secretary of the Ecuadorean Atomic Energy Commission; General Juan Barreda, president of the Peruvian Nuclear Energy Institute; Antonio Rondon, director of the Bolivian Nuclear Energy Commission; and Villarreal Silva, the IAN director.

BRIEFS

SALVADORAN-HONDURAN PEACE TREATY -- Honduras and El Salvador yesterday presented to the United Nations the general peace treaty they signed in 1980 to end the situation caused by the war between the two countries in 1969. The treaty was presented to the UN Secretariat by Salvadoran representative Mauricio Rosales and Honduran representative Roberto Herrera, who praised the achievement of this treaty. [Summary] [Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 16 Sep 83 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON U.S., EUROPEAN RELATIONS

PY261825 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 25 Sep 83 p 1

[By correspondent Ovidio Bellando]

[Text] New York -- In the opinion of Argentine Foreign Minister Aguirre Lanari, the United States has given positive signs of friendship toward Argentina since the appointment of George Shultz as Secretary of State, the most noteworty one being the favorable vote last year for negotiations over the Malvinas. Minister Lanari noted, however, that "Europe had sanctioned Argentina for going to war, and it still has not supported its wishes for peaceful negotiations."

According to Minister Lanari, the attitude of the European Community is no longer an attitude merely against the outgoing military regime, but is also against the government to be elected by the Argentine people, against Latin America which has made the Malvinas cause its own, and against the United States which is a NATO partner.

Regarding the improvement of relations with the United States, Minister Lanari outlined their current status for LA NACION. He summed it up this way: "Adhering to our policy of independence and protection of our national interests, we have managed to have a greater understanding now. With its diplomatic actions and its high-ranking spokesmen, although not officially, the United States has admitted its mistaken position during the Malvinas conflict, and it can be said that today we have cordial relations with a definite tendency to improvement."

Lanari, however, said that the positive gestures toward Argentina might be just part of Washington's strategy to refurbish the deteriorated image of the United States in Latin America, in which it has made the Argentine cause its own cause. "Nevertheless, the facts cannot be denied," he noted.

We asked Minister Lanari how Argentina has responded to both the diplomatic actions, and to the financial actions, recently mentioned by Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe, lately taken by the United States.

The foreign minister answered that, as far as his area of responsibility is concerned, Argentina is acting moderately in the international organizations. "We have done so in the Nonaligned Movement on several occasions, and we will continue to do so through the Contadora Group which deals with the problems of Central America."

The French and Italian attitude is for Lanari a question mark in terms of the support he seeks for the Malvinas cause; a quest for support which kept him busy for long hours on Saturday. Lanari's advisors are evaluating the independent actions of President Mitterrand in many areas on the one hand, and his acquiescence to British Government impositions on the other.

The San Martin Palace is also trying to put together the Italian puzzle, represented by the balky position of the Italian Government which last year abstained from voting, the positions taken by the Argentines of Italian stock, and the positions of the Italian companies which operate in Argentina.

Of course, San Martin Palace is aware of Mrs Thatcher's slight of Prime Minister Craxi recently -- although for reasons other than the Malvinas -- as well as of the financial pressures.

But San Martin Palace must ask itself whether that balky attitude [to support Argentina's insistance on negotiations with Great Britain over the Falklands] on the part of the current Italian Government might not drive the new Argentine authorities to emerge from the elections with a less cordial policy.

According to some diplomats, a military government may harden or cut relations, because it has narrow choices. However, an elected government has the support to do something more thoughtful and less dramatic: Reduce relations to what is strictly necessary. On 6 October, Minister Lanari and Secretary Shultz will hold a private meeting. But, beginning tomorrow, they will be seeing each other almost daily.

SOVIET UNION MAIN GRAIN PURCHASER JAN-JUL 83

PY222223 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1102 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Sep (NA) -- The Soviet Union continues to be the main buyer of Argentine grains. During the period January-July 1983, the Soviet Union purchased 49.3 percent of Argentina's grain sales. During that period the Soviet Union purchased 8,297,754 tons of the total 16,804,724 tons of grains exported by Argentina to 55 countries. This information was disclosed by the National Grain Board (JNG).

The total of Argentine grain sales for the aforementioned period consisted, among other grains, of: 7,779,418 tons of bread wheat; 4,619,528 tons of corn; 3,470,599 tons of sorghum; and 680,195 tons of soybean. The Soviet Union purchased sizeable quantities of wheat, corn, sorghum and soybean.

The PRC is Argentina's second most important grain buyer with a total purchase of 2,443,148 tons (14.5 percent of the total sales). Of this total 98 percent is wheat.

Japan occupied the third place with a total of 1,274,548 tons of which 1,231,030 tons were purchases of sorghum. Iran occupied fourth place with 1,076,506 tons (470,475 tons of wheat and 604,721 tons of corn).

In the month of July Argentina's grain sales amounted to 2,832,671 tons (681,178 tons of wheat; 1,096,603 tons of corn; 586,170 tons of sorghum; and 420,546 tons of soybean; among other grains).

In this month, the Soviet Union was the main buyer with 593,174 tons, which represents a 20.9 percent of the total Argentine sales.

The PRC occupied second place with a total of 16.2 percent of the sales (459,315 tons) and Spain third place with 13.1 percent (372,479 tons).

Rosario Port was the most active port during the first 7 months of this year. A total of 4,070,627 tons (24.2 percent of the total) were shipped from this port.

COMMISSION APPROVES ANTISUBVERSIVE DRAFT LAW

PY270100 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0008 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 Sep (DYN) -- The legislative Advisory Commission (CAL) approved a draft law today for the "prosecution of terrorist and subversive actions" establishing that these kind of crimes will be tried by courts of law.

The draft law provides that federal judges will serve as trial judges and that the sentences will be handed out by the Criminal Court of Appeals.

The draft law, which was approved and submitted to the executive branch for consideration this afternoon, could be passed into law in the next few hours. According to official spokesmen, the new law, which will supplement the amnesty law, was initially called "Law for Defense of Democracy."

CAL spokesmen stated that the law is designed to "speed up prosecutions of terrorist and subversive actions and to guarantee the right to a fair trial." Sources close to the courts told DYN that under the new law, "federal judges will conduct the hearings and the sentences, which cannot be appealed, and they will be handed out by the Criminal Court of Appeals."

POPULAR LEFT FRONT ELECTS PRESIDENTIAL TICKET

PY261632 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1310 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Sep (NA) -- The Popular Left Front (FIP) has elected Jorge Abelardo Ramos and Elisa Colombo for the party's presidential ticket in the 30 October elections, and has resolved that the party's electors at the Electoral College should support the Justicialist ticket of Italo Luder-Deolindo Bittel.

That was the result of the FIP national convention which was held this past weekend in Buenos Aires, with the participation of delegates from the 20 districts where the party has been politically and legally recognized.

Like the Communist and the Popular Socialist Parties, the FIP was not allowed to register the Peronist presidential ticket on its ballots. With the FIP ticket, there are now 12 presidential tickets registered for the 30 October elections.

NATIONAL LEFTIST PARTIES TO SUPPORT PERONISTS

PY241522 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0046 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The National Left Party, a splinter from the Popular Left Front headed by Enea Spilimbergo, has reached an agreement with the Popular Socialist Party to support the latter's presidential ticket, Esteves Boero-Rossi, in the 30 October elections, and to jointly support the Peronist Luder-Bittel ticket in the Electoral College.

REPORT ON ACCIDENT AT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

PY241818 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] The National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA] has reported that a CNEA technician suffered an extensive overexposure to radiation when he committed a serious operational error.

The technician, who was not identified, works at the RA-2 compound of the Constituyentes Atomic Center and was immediately treated by specialized professionals who are now evaluating the extent to which he was overexposed to radiation.

The CNEA states that since there has been no leakage of radioactive material the accident will have absolutely no hazardous effects on the people's health.

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS DESTABILIZATION PLAN

PY270109 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1946 GMT 24 Sep 83

[By Adalid Cabrera Lemuz]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 24 Sep (EFE) -- The Bolivian Government reported today the existence of a plan to destabilize the democratic process begun in 1982. The report was made by Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata, who remarked that "political opponents are trying to weaken President Hernan Siles Zuazo's administration at any cost."

The minister specifically referred to the terrorist attack carried out last Friday against the newspapers HOY and MERIDIANO of La Paz by unidentified people who planted dynamite charges. In a telephone call, an unidentified person said that the attack was "only a warning," and accused the two newspapers of supporting former President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

According to the directors of the newspaper HOY, which is one of the most important newspapers in Bolivia, the unidentified person concluded the call by voicing support for democracy and Siles Zuazo.

The interior minister rejected the charges, adding that "it is obvious that some people are trying to involve the executive branch in terrorist actions and to weaken democracy." Government sources told EFE today that there is concern within the government over the outbreak of terrorism in Bolivia. The sources expressed their conviction that some people are trying to "create confusion and distrust among the people to justify their plan to overthrow Siles Zuazo."

ENVOY DOWNPLAYS INCIDENT ALONG CHILEAN BORDER

PY262239 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] An incident on the Bolivian-Chilean border between Bolivian and Chilean mineworkers will be definitely cleared up over the next few days, Bolivian Consul Hector Valdivieso said today. Downplaying the significance of the incident which developed last week, the consul stated that the event had been blown out of proportion by the Chilean press. The consul blamed the incident on the lack of proper landmarks on the border. Valdivieso noted that the workers of the two countries have always been on good terms.

What has happened will not mar the relations between Bolivian and Chile, Valdivieso said. At the same time, he noted that everything related to the alleged abductions will be cleared up this week. It is claimed that two Chilean mineworkers were abducted by four Bolivian mineworkers from Chilean territory. The Chileans were brought into Bolivia and charged with working on Bolivian territory. However, the owner of the (Indagavi) mine requested his government to properly mark the borderline to avoid more incidents of this kind in the future.

BRIEFS

LA PAZ PREFECT, MAYOR INSTALLED -- Freddy Penaloza Orrico has been installed as prefect of the La Paz Department, and Mario Sanjines Uriarte as La Paz mayor. [Summary] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 13 Sep 83 p 1 PY]

GOVERNMENT READY TO RESUME TALKS WITH PARTIES

PY262258 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0026 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Chilean Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa said today that his government is ready to resume "soon" the talks "with the [Democratic] -- Alliance or with any other democratic sector." Jarpa made these statements to a group of journalists after attending a mass at Maipu Shrine which was said for the Virgen del Carmen. Jarpa called for unity and peace among all Chileans.

The minister spoke about the Democratic Alliance's communique and to the conditions that were set for in it. He pointed out that "we never sought to tie our participation to their doing or not doing certain things." Jarpa added that the democratic sectors are very interested in prompt joining of efforts to bring about the country's development, and "I am hopeful that everything will turn out very well."

Regarding the possibility of removing snags from the talks, like the provisional Article 24 of the Constitution, which bestows special powers upon the chief of state, Jarpa said that "we have reiterated that we have no intention of instituting unusual measures unless it is absolutely necessary to maintain internal peace and the state of law within the country."

The minister finally noted that the current problem centers on "whether there is true will to move toward a representative, stable, and efficient democratic system; or whether there is no such will, in which case chicanery wil continue."

NEW POLITICAL MOVEMENT TO SEEK PARTY STATUS

PY261835 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1156 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Santiago, 25 Sep (EFE) -- A new political movement, which is aiming at obtaining party status as soon as legally permissible, has surfaced in Chile. This movement is led by Pinochet's former interior minister, Sergio Fernandez, and by constitutional matters and government adviser, Jaime Guzman. This new organization is made up of so-called "unionist" groups under the umbrella of the "Independent Democratic Union" (Union Democratica Independiente"). This new organization believes that it is necessary to deal with the serious economic crisis which is affecting Chile in order to achieve a prompt reactivation.

This new organization also claims that the permanent provisions of the constitution approved in 1980 establish a democratic system as it is usually understood in the West.

In agreement with opposition sectors, this new organization favors the installation of a new parliament prior to the date which was set by the Constitution, and asserts that this would fulfill one of the most valuable proposals of the transition project which was submitted by the Council of State which former Chilean President Jorge Alesandri presided over in 1980.

The Independent Democratic Union stressed its allegiance to democracy and rejected any totalitarianism, claiming that Marxism and democracy are completely incompatible. The Independent Democratic Union rejects what it calls "false nationalisms," stating that the latter lead to fascist totalitarianisms.

The Independent Democratic Union stresses that it is very important that when the Armed Forces put an end to their government duties in the future, they should do so in a way that would indicate the completion of a project, and not an abrupt or forced termination of their efforts.

The Independent Democratic Union says that, should such a break take place, frustrations would brew in the heart of the Armed Forces and the police. These frustrations, it concludes, could threaten democratic stability in the future. This makes it advisable to support the completion of the constitutional term in office of President Augusto Pinochet, which ends in 1989.

The Independent Democratic Union defines its stance toward the government as that of reasonable support, free from bias. This leads it to firm up the government's stability, to loyally cooperate in government undertakings, and to voice constructive criticism whenever necessary.

The Independent Democratic Union joins other political sectors or trends which were formed recently, with the aim of obtaining political party status as soon as this is legally permissible.

One of the Independent Democratic Union leaders, Sergio Fernandez, is currently heading a commission, which is studying, jointly with the Council of State, an advisory body reporting to President Pinochet, the so-called political laws.

AIR FORCE EXPLORES ANTARCTICA: PLANS TWO AIRPORTS

PY231714 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Chilean Air Force is carrying out reconnaissance flights over the Antarctic where it is planning to build two airports.

The reconnaissance and exploration of the Chilean Antarctic territory is also being carried out to support scientific investigations in the geophysical, geological, aeromagnetic, [word indistinct], radioactivity, gravity, ecology, ice, flora and fauna behavior and other fields. For these flights, the Air Force is using Hercules aircraft, [words indistinct], and helicopters, and is using the Teniente Marsh Base located on Chilean Antarctic territory and the Chabunco Air Base in Punta Arenas as operation bases.

BETANCUR PRAISES WORK OF PEACE COMMISSION

PA232302 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Sep 83 p 8-A

[Excerpt] In open defense of the dialogue the Peace Commission is carrying out with subversive groups, President Belisario Betancur said that our problems will be more effectively solved by converting rather than defeating.

"Let us not foregt that in times of crisis such as we have been experiencing for many years, there are people so desperate for order and innovation that they might mistakenly view chaos as that order and innovation. That is why tolerance and dialogue are urgently needed, especially on the part of those chosen by the people to lead and guide society," the president said.

Betancur spoke yesterday in Narino Palace at a reception in honor of the Peace Commission on the occasion of its first anniversary. At the end of the event, Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios reiterated the commission's will to continue to work tirelessly for peace.

In his speech, Betancur said that the ceremony was not so much a celebration as a ratification. He said the government is ratifying an objective; it is reaffirming the commission as representative and as a creation of democracy to struggle against the most adverse obstacles to convince, through dialogue, the most reticent that "all our ideas and actions are aimed exclusively at strengthening that democracy and with it the institutional peace. This peace is viewed not only in purely legal terms but also in economic and social terms."

The president once again praised the dialogue that the members of the Peace Commission and the high commissioners are carrying out, and he admitted that it is being held "in favorable but unquestionably difficult conditions." The president reiterated that this dialogue must continue to progress with out interruption.

He said that the situation with regard to the rehabilitation of the regions that have public order problems is improving, at least in those areas where, in addition to rhetorical statements of good will by the authorities, commitments are being kept.

Betancur also admitted that sometimes the necessary dialogue seems to become a government monologue, but he said he does not complain or get discouraged because his clear commitment "does not allow us to get upset."

In any case, he stressed that the government is not struggling for its stability since "this is indisputable and unquestioned" thanks to the powerful support of law and the people and the loyalty of the Armed Forces. "The government is fighting for other values that go beyond its transience. It is struggling for the deep peace that, amid the destabilizations caused by social dynamics, gives a historic meaning to a people."

He referred to the Contadora Group efforts in Central America and stressed that Colombia forms part of that unarmed, pacifying group "not for mere diplomatic vainglory but because our peace is also at stake, near or far."

Betancur said it would be tragic rather than absurd if, in addition to the explosive ingredients of our internal problems, we added external factors that are perhaps even more lethal than the difficult ones we are facing here.

COMMANDER REPORTS 'SUMMIT' OF L.A. REBEL GROUPS

PA231815 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2244 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] Bogota, 22 Sep (DPA) -- General Gustavo Matamoros, Colombian Armed Forces commander, disclosed here today the existence of an alliance between the guerrilla groups of various nations of Latin America.

The ranking officer said that a guerrilla "summit" was held recently in Esmeraldas Province in Ecuador, attended by delegates from the Peruvian "Shining Path" group, the Salvadoran FMLN, the 19 April Movement (M-19) of Colombia, the "Red Flag" of Venezuela, and another guerrilla movement from Guatemala.

Matamoros indicated that during the meeting they decided to promote joint actions and that the various groups will lend one another mutual counseling.

The Colombian Armed Forces commander said that last Sunday's rebel attack on the Venezuelan Cutufi military post in the state of Apure, a few kilometers from the Colombian-Venezuelan border, staged by extremists of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) of Colombia and the "Red Flag" of Venezuela, is a good indication of the cooperation that exists between the various extremists movements.

General Matamoros noted that international communism is attempting to destabilize the governments of Central America and that its subsequent objective is Colombia.

General Matamoros' statement came less than 48 hours after the ELN leadership announced an "internationalist" offensive to fulfill "Che" Guevara's idea of spreading revolutionary war throughout the continent and that in the coming days they would stage incursions in neighboring countries.

Guerrilla Groups Unite

PA241635 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Bogota, 23 Sep (AFP) -- The Venezuelan Red Flag guerrillas joined the Colombian Army of National Liberation (Castroite-ELN) 2 years ago, a Defense Ministry source in Bogota disclosed today. The unification occurred as a result of joint operations staged by the two groups on the Colombian-Venezuelan border, and by the decision of their leaders, Gabriel Puerto Aponte and Father Manuel Perez.

The military spokesman said that Father Perez, after the death of Domingo Lain, another Spanish priest who headed the ELN, concentrated his activities in the northeastern province of El Cesar close to the Venezuelan border.

He explained that after the two guerrillas groups united, Venezuelan Puerto Aponte was appointed coordinator of all the attacks up until the time he was captured on 10 April 1982 in a Caracas suburb.

"At that time the PTJ (Judicial Technical Police) of Venezuela found on Puerto Aponte a forged Colombian passport with which he intended to go in and out of Colombia through the Arauca region," the spokesman indicated.

He said that the ELN and Red Flag commands, who attacked Cutufi Saturday, killing a noncommissioned officer and wounding eight soldiers, was led by Spanish Father Perez and Saturnino Sepulveda.

According to the military source, two cousins of Colombian Claudia Yepes Restrepo, who belongs to the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas of Peru, participated in the same operation. Claudia Yepes Restrepo was arrested in Caracas last year along with Oscar Garzon Ramirez, apparently a Colombian.

The military spokesmen indicated that the guerrilla summit in Esmeraldas (Ecuador), where an international struggle front was formed, was attended by Father Manuel Perez of the ELN.

ARMED FORCES TO OPPOSE INSURGENTS IN ARAUCA

PA252248 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Sep 83 p 14-C

[By Henry Rojas Monje]

[Text] Arauca, 18 Sep -- General Gustavo Matamoros D'Costa, commander of the military forces, blamed FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the ELN [National Liberation Army] for the violent incidents that have taken place in the last few days and for the murder of Saravena's Mayor Alfonso Ramirez Parada and Captain Gustavo Ramirez, commander of the carabineers post in the same town.

Matamoros D'Costa said that "the disruption of public order in Sarare is a political problem that has been encouraged by the Communist Party's armed branch."

The general noted that "it would not be fair for the Arauca Intendancy -- which currently enjoys a peaceful atmosphere after suffering the effects of violence for many years -- to fall prey to actions by subversive groups."

He added that these incidents can have very grave effects on progress in the region and stressed that the military forces will wage an offensive against the subversives in this part of the country.

Gen Matamoros announced that a new Cavalry Group will be created in Saravena by the end of the year, consisting of some 30 officers and at least 1,000 men, with which to reinforce the troops currently present. It will have everything necessary to engage in counterinsurgency actions and to control crime.

"The Armed Forces are genuinely interested in peace. We are concerned about all aspects of crime and will therefore challenge all who try to create insecurity and confusion in this part of the country," Matamoros declared. He also endorsed the proposal made by civic leaders of Sarare, who suggested that a forum be held in this part of the intendancy, to include members of the Peace Commission, members of Congress, and high-level leaders of the Armed Forces and government. "We are willing to talk with those whose intentions are good, to involve ourselves even more at the community level, and to make use of all healthy suggestions and positive ideas that we receive from the people," Matamoros said.

Referring to the current status of relations between the Venezuelan and Colombian Armed Forces, Matamoros said that they have never been as cordial and fruitful as they are today.

PLRA PROTESTS MEASURES AGAINST JOURNALISTS

PY261452 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Sep 83 p 7

[Text] The Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] has branded as illegal and false the measures adopted against Radio Nanduti and its director Humberto Rubin, as well as the use of heavy-handedness in the arrest of Alcibiades Gonzalez Delvalle. The PLRA stated this in a communique released yesterday.

The communique expressed the PLRA's repudiation of the outrages again perpetrated by the government against the independent press, specifically against Gonzalez Delvalle and Rubin. It says that the ban against Rubin is wholly arbitrary and the arrest of Gonzalez Delvalle is rooted in the uncontrolled use of force.

The communique stresses that the PLRA cannot overlook the fact that the measures adopted against these journalists damage the best interests of Paraguayan society, and are thus strongly rejected by the Liberals and the entire honorable citizenry of the country. It adds that the country's dignified men view Gonzalez Delvalle and Rubin as standard bearers of the ideals of freedom and democracy in the noble exercise of their journalistic work.

It further states: "In the name of the Paraguayan Liberals, we express our solidarity with Gonzalez Delvalle and Humberto Rubin and voice our recognition of the courage and mettle they have demonstrated in defending truth and the national interests."

Lastly, the communique calls upon all the country's democratic sectors to come forth in favor of respect for freedom of the press, because this freedom is the guarantee of all other freedoms. The communique is signed by the president, Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin, and the political secretary, Miguel Abdon Saguier.

Police Observe Mass for Journalists

PY261540 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 Sep 83 p 11

[Excerpt] Last night, a mass was held at the Beato Gonzalez de Santa Cruz Church to pray for Alcibiades Gonzalez Delvalle's freedom. During the sermon, Father Americo Ferreira Bojanovich prayed that the journalist may have "strength in the face of adversity and that those in government may have a more Christian heart."

Father Bojanovich said: "The Parable of the rich man and poor Lazarus shows us the existence of social and economic classes, with undeniable political implications."

"Some will say that the poor are not many, that no one is too poor, and that no one starves to death. But, although no one starves to death, many of us live in poverty. This situation, brothers, is not likely to be solved with a sermon. Unfortunately, those who should solve the problems do not even pass by a church because they do not want to be confronted with the truth in God's words."

During the mass, attended by some 300 persons, Agustin Barboza and Yvera sang the song "Praver and Road" of which Barboza is the author. As during other asses a photographer of the Police Investigative Department [DIP], took pictures of the congregation and a plainsclothesman recorded Father Bojanovich's sermon.

After completing the recording, the plainclothesman entered a car, license plate K-60486, driven by DIP photographer Vega, who is also the owner of the Barbecue Grill Maracana. A number of artistic, radio, and television personalities attended last night's mass. Some 20 uniformed police were present in the church observing the religious ceremony, while plainclothesmen sat in the pews among the people.

Gonzalez Delvalle remains under arrest in the DIP, while no official communique has yet been released on the reason for his arrest. Last night's mass was organized by the Permanent Assembly of Solidarity With Political Prisoners.

APP CLAIMS TO BE SOLE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION

PY261355 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Sep 83 p 7

[Text] Through the Information and Culture Secretariat of the Presidency, the Press Association of Paraguay [APP] released a communique yesterday stating that the association is the only legally recognized organization as far as the labor affairs of journalists are concerned.

The communique is signed by the president of the association, Dante Cazal, and the secretary general, Federico Cooper. It says that "the Press Association of Paraguay, as provided under Article 2, item H, which states that 'to prevent, with the legitimate title of journalist or without it, acts from being committed which can damage the good name of the press, as well as to prevent persons who have nothing to do with journalism from interfering in the functions of the press,' informs the public that the APP is the only organization legally recognized through Executive Branch Decree 13929 of 8 October 1952, and is the only union recognized through National Labor Department Resolution No 163 of 22 September 1952, which succeeded in securing the first salary scale for journalists."

The communique then says that "to handle labor problems of union members, the APP has appointed colleagues Rodolfo Echeverria and Pablo Marcial Garcete as delegates to the Paraguayan Labor Confederation [CPT], and has been making prompt payment of union dues. In view of these circumstances, and by virtue of Article 66 of the statutes, which states that 'the APP is not to be involved in any political or religious debate, and thus any political or religious statement made by any association member does not compromise the association,' any other association, organization, or union pretending to represent the journalistic class is false and illegal, and its existence does not respond to the legitimate interests of journalists, but rather those of small sectors interested in using the good name of journalism for objectives which have nothing to do with our noble profession."

AFP REPORTS 100,000 MARCH IN MONTEVIDEO 25 SEP

PY261245 Paris AFP in Spanish 1120 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Report by Enrique Vidal]

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 26 Sep (AFP) -- According to political analysts, two huge protests, especially an authorized march in which 100,000 persons participated, spurred on Sunday the radicalization of several sectors of the opposition to the regime which has been ruling Uruguay since 1973. The march, the first in 10 years, was called by a newly created student association. For approximately 3 km in downtown Montevideo, the marchers expressed the dissatisfaction of students and workers through slogans commenting on the social and political situation in the country.

The marchers' favorite was the Argentine slogan "It is about to end, it is about to end, the military dictatorship is about to end," but they also shouted other slogans calling for the release of prisoners and urging the people to unite. The march went without incident and was strictly controlled by its organizers. Only two traffic policemen could be seen as the rest of the police stayed away from the march, and even from the surrounding area.

Hundreds of signs made clear the meaning of the protest, which was initially intended to express the displeasure of the students over the status of educational institutions under intervention since 1973. The signs called for university cogovernment and autonomy, and also demanded freedom, better wages, jobs, and amnesty, which were voiced by the Workers Interunion Plenum [PIT], an organization that is not officially recognized but which joined the march.

This march came in the wake of partial strikes which the PIT staged last week demanding more jobs and salary hikes, thus violating the ban levied by the government in 1973. The two measures, in which many people participated, were followed by pan beating and a blackout which a majority of Uruguayans staged on Sunday night, following instructions of the PIT and the political parties.

At the end of the day the news media voiced surprise over the lack of comment from politicians, especially with regard to the march. Diplomatic sources have indicated that the politicians' silence was due to fear that the success of this demonstration could lead to a radicalization of social unrest on the eve of the resumption of institutional dialogue, something which seems to be almost agreed upon between the politicians and military.

TALKS WITH MEXICAN TRADE DELEGATION BEGIN

PY261828 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The initial meeting between an official Mexican delegation and Uruguayan Foreign Trade Directorate officials will take place this afternoon in order to reach a new trade agreement. The meeting between the Mexican delegation, which is headed by the Director General of Trade Negotiations and International Affairs (Abel Garrido Ruiz), and Mr (Jorge Sienra) will be held at the Uruguayan Foreign Trade Directorate offices.

Our country will seek to strike an agreement similar to the existing one with Iran, by which Uruguayan products would be traded for Mexican oil. The visiting delegation has arrived with the special aim of renegotiating with ALADI [Latin American Integration Association] several of the agreements that were in effect when the Latin American Free Trade Association [LAFTA] was the regional organization.

FOREIGN SECRETARY TO SPEAK AT UN 29 SEPTEMBER

FL261157 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0005 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor left for New York today to attend 38th UN General Assembly session. Sepulveda Amor will participate in the UN General Assembly debate on 29 September 1983.

The foreign secretary said that at the UN General Assembly the countries of the Contadora Group -- Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, and Panama -- will review the progress achieved in the search for peace in Central America.

He said that he will review Mexico's action in the international field and the Mexican Government's position on the problems of world cooperation and negotiations.

Sepulveda Amor said that Mexico will support proposals to stop the arms race and to promote respect for the fundamental rights of man.

The Mexican foreign affairs secretary was accompanied by Victor Flores Olea, undersecretary of multilateral affairs, and Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, undersecretary of economic affairs.

CUBAN GENERAL PRAISES MEXICO'S 'HEROIC ATTITUDE'

PA252333 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Sep 83

[Article by Antonio Franco]

[Excerpt] Cuban Defense Minister Rigoberto Garcia Fernandez [title as published] said here yesterday that his government, like all of Latin America, is extremely concerned about the current situation in Central America, because it might lead to a world war. He added that Cuba wants peace and unity for all of America's countries and is concerned about existing problems on our continent.

Garcia Fernandez was invited by the Mexican Government to attend ceremonies on the 173d anniversary of our national independence. He said that there should be more understanding among our nations, in view of the current situation.

He also called on all Latin American countries to adopt the heroic attitude that characterizes the Mexican people in order to bring peace to the area.

In another part of an interview granted at the airport shortly after his arrival, Garcia Fernandez said that he is very glad to have a friend like Mexico, which has always given valuable aid to Cuba.

Garcia Fernandez said: "In the critical moments that we Latin Americans are facing, the unity and friendly relations that have always existed between Mexico and Cuba should be further strengthened."

Referring to the danger of world war, Garcia Fernandez said: "This could happen at any moment." He refrained from further comment.

CUBAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION TO VISIT

PA262222 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 24 Sep 83 pp 1, 12

[From the "General Press News" column by Luis Suarez: "Important Cuban Visit"]

[Text] A five-man delegation from Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government led by Flavio Bravo, Assembly president and first vice president of Cuba, will arrive in Mexico on Friday. It has been invited by the Mexican Senate, which, as is known, handles foreign affairs. The visit was coordinated on behalf of the hosts by Senator Gonzalo Martinez Corbala, whose good reputation and prestige was stressed by Fidel Castro in the book of visitors at the Mexican Embassy in Havana. Castro wrote that Martinez Corbala was the best of ambassadors, thus endorsing his work in this new and fruitful stage in Mexican-Cuban relations.

The significance of this visit at a time when the international situation, if not yet grave, seems to be deteriorating, implying that the situation in Central America and the Caribbean will become worse, makes it more than a mere ceremonial event between the two legislative chambers. It is part of a strong and sustained effort by Mexico to ease tensions and to soften those positions that are making it difficult to resolve and, in fact, threaten to extend the conflicts in our area.

Following the Contadora Group's summit in Cancun, which was proposed by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, it was agreed to urge Cuba and the United States to contribute to the efforts to negotiate peaceful political solutions, rather than resorting to military responses. This writer does not know what high-level contacts, if any, have been or are being made with President Fidel Castro or his representatives, but those made with the United States in various meetings in which Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda has been both active and effective are well-known. In fact, there was a moment when it was felt that the U.S. representatives were toning down their stance, but this optimism conflicts, of course, with the U.S. plans to continue to dispatch troops to Honduras. Something has been achieved, however, when people can talk rather than shout while waiting for something more feasible than a dialogue among the deaf to take place.

Aside from specific matters involving bilateral cooperation to be discussed with the Cuban parliamentary delegation -- which will make several visits, including one to Mexico State -- the delegation's visit will also permit discussion of other agreements on the viability of the Contadora Group's work, because, though Cuba and the United States do not have relations, both are indispensable interlocutors. There are instances when relations and courtesies that look unimportant produce qualitative effects on more significant issues. In addition, Commander Flavio Bravo, the leader of the delegation, is an important political figure within the context of the decisionmaking powers delegated to Fidel Castro.

Deep inside many observers of the convoluted international scene have viewed the escalation of U.S. military actions in Lebanon as presaging probable relief in Central America. However, aside from the fact that it would be unfair to seek relief for one's illness by rendering someone else's condition worse, events in Lebanon further complicate matters and constitute not relief, but further pressure within the generalized danger of war that is facing everyone.

PANAMA'S ORTEGA REPORTS ON CONTADORA MISSION

All Countries Ratify Objectives

PA262119 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2109 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Panama City, 26 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The heads of state of the five Central American nations have ratified the "document of peace objectives" that was approved at the most recent Contadora Group meeting, which was held on 8 and 9 September.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega this afternoon announced that each and every one of the heads of state of the area's countries have given an affirmative vote to the document, "as a means of advancing in the search for detente in the region."

Oyden Ortega added that tomorrow he will be leaving for the UN Headquarters in New York, where he will meet with his counterparts from Colomia, Mexico, and Venezuela, all members of the Contadora Group.

During the meetings that the four foreign ministers will hold while they are at the UN Headquarters, they will explain the current Central American situation to the foreign ministers of Canada and the EEC.

Oyden Ortega also confirmed that Henry Kissinger, the chairman of the U.S. Special Commission for Central America, will arrive in Panama on 9 October.

Contadora Countries To Meet

PA270240 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega today reported at a press conference that the Contadora Group's foreign ministers will meet tomorrow in New York at the UN General Assembly. Here are some of Ortega's comments at the press conference, in which he also reported that the Central American governments have ratified a regional document of peace objectives:

"This document provides the basis for future negotiations among the Central American countries. It constitutes a direct reference point for possible peace agreements and other international documents. Therefore, qualitatively speaking, the Contadora Group, as a team and as an initiative, has entered a new phase, a phase of negotiations among the area's nations in search of peace. The Contadora Group will continue with this initiative, collaborating with these countries to ensure that this much desired objective is achieved."

On Panama's position toward the Central American issue and on whether the Contadora Group should be discussed at the United Nations, Foreign Minister Ortega said:

"Taking into account the fact that some Central American presidents have pointed out that peace negotiations in Central America are normal and given the Contadora Group's role in this effort, Panama feels that this topic should not be presented."

Within a lengthy explanation of the procedures of the Contadora Group and those of the UN Assembly, Foreign Minister Ortega noted that he will travel to New York City tomorrow, where he will meet with the foreign ministers from the rest of the Contadora Group countries, to jointly evaluate and make a decision on whether the Central American issue and the Contadora Group's actions should be discussed at the United Nations. He also explained the fundamental points of the document of objectives ratified by the Central American Governments:

"The document refers primarily to the need to take concrete actions that will promote detente, avoiding any actions that might endanger political confidence or impede the goal of regional peace, security, and stability. It ensures strict compliance with the principles of international law, which were mentioned earlier, in terms of the sovereign equality of nations, respect for territorial integrity, and other principles that are defined in the document itself.

"The document expresses respect and contains guarantees for the exercise of human, political, civil, economic, social, religious, and cultural rights. It specifies measures that will lead to the establishment and possibly to the perfecting of democratic, representative, and pluralist systems, which would guarantee effective popular participation in the decisionmaking process and which would ensure free access of all trends to honest and periodic electoral processes, based on the full observation of citizens' rights."

BELIZE

PRICE SEEKS 'RECOGNITION' OF NATIONAL RIGHTS

PA241335 Paris AFP in Spanish 0410 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Belize, 23 Sep (AFP) -- Belizean Premier George Price today demanded "respect and recognition of Belize's right to have a future as a free nation within well-defined territorial boundaries."

In his message, which was assumed here to be aimed at Guatemala, Price said that Belize's borders "existed before Central America won its independence in 1821."

"We are extending the hand of friendship to those who are making claims on our territory and causing us unnecessary problems," Price declared, referring to the Guatemalan Government, which still has not recognized the independence of Belize, whose territory it claims as its own.

Price added that Belize has good relations with "most Central American countries" and that the Belizean Government wishes to have good relations "with all."

However, "unfounded claims to our territory stand in the way of friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation," Price said.

Price later urged Belizeans to put aside ethnic, political, and religious differences in the name of unity. He noted that "geography, history, and current realities make the United States and Mexico our allies."

Price approved and gave his support to efforts being made by the Contadora Group -- Panama, Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela -- to achieve a negotiated solution to the conflicts in Central America.

COSTA RICA

HAVANA: U.S. PLANS TO INSTALL ROCKET SYSTEM

PA261957 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The French weekly (?LE PONS) says that the United States plans to establish anti-Aircraft rocket units in Costa Rica] along the border with Nicaragua. In its most recent edition, the maganize says that the Washington government will install three batteries of surface-to-air rockets in Costa Rican territory.

OFFICIAL DENIES UN REFUGEE AGENCY WITHDRAWING

PA231530 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Attorney General Hugo Munoz yesterday emphatically denied reports that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, is about to leave the country. It is false that the UNHCR has officially announced that it is withdrawing from Costa Rica, he said. Munoz said that yesterday morning he met with the refugee coordination commission to analyze important subjects dealing with future work in this field.

Munoz also admitted that the refugee situation is serious, because the country cannot reject them or return them to Nicaragua and countries outside the strife-torn region do not want to receive them.

Asked whether the country's capacity to receive refugees is being exhausted, the attorney general said that even if this were the case, we cannot do anything but open the doors to them. He added that the large number of refugees who arrive almost daily from Nicaragua poses grave security and health problems.

Unfortunately, we cannot do anything to prevent this, because no other country is willing to receive the refugees, he said. Munoz said: We are evidently facing a lack of international solidarity. At this time, we need the solidarity and aid of other nations. On Tuesday, this situation, he said, was brought to the attention of representatives of private international humanitarian organizations in hopes that they will decide to provide great material cooperation to Costa Rica for the refugees.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE PROPOSES ECONOMIC RECOVERY, SOCIAL PACT

PA231520 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 22 Sep 83 pp 5, 30

[Text] Jose Napoleon Durate has proposed a model for "economic recovery" and a social pact to the Salvadoran people to overcome the present economic, political, and social situation we are experiencing.

He made the proposal during a luncheon meeting of the National Council of Salvadoran Businessmen, CONAES, at the Camino Real Hotel yesterday. During the meeting, the leader of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC, delivered a speech.

"The model of economic recovery is based on a planned process of progressive adjustment to all the factors that, due to the protectionism of some sectors, have put our economy out of adjustment," he asserted.

Duarte explained that this will be the economic platform of his administration if the people allow him to govern the country during the next 5 years.

He promised to control the attempts to create violent economic dislocation. "We will program our time to carry out adjustments to our most urgent needs, in accordance with the producers' ability to grow. We will seek increased sources of employment and salaries related to the cost of living, within an economy that controls rampant inflation."

"We will establish a policy that will be strictly oriented toward subsidizing our basic products, ending the favoritism that encourages anti-economic schemes. The policy of incentives will extend to those who produce nontraditional products in less-developed social sectors in the country."

"Business will also have the assurance that the state's role as the leader of our economy will not be based on a concept of strict plans. Goals will be achieved thanks to the businessmen's production capacity, with state support," Duarte said.

The PDC presidential candidate also announced that for the next 5 years, no plan from the so-called second phase of agrarian reform will be started.

"In reducing our public debt, we will have available shares in the state's profit-producing businesses, which can be exchanged for state bonds. These businesses cover agrarian reform, sugar mills, and coffee processing plants." He also promised administrative reform to balance expenses with revenues and thus avoid taxes which increase the cost of living. State services will be offered diligently and without red tape.

"We will design a fiscal policy that allows enough savings to face the reconstruction plans. It must also be quite clear that the government will conduct a campaign against corruption. We will also have to improve the banking sector's main activities. We will make equitable distribution of credit lines to all economic sectors, giving special service to handicrafts and small- and medium-sized businesses."

"Within all this," Napoleon Duarte asserted, "I propose a social pact that supports the entire nation. This will allow us to achieve the goals of the proposed economic recovery model and achieve our sincere hope of a peace based on equal rights, respect, justice, and democratic liberty."

Within this same social pact, the PDC clearly states its position and style of government, so that there are no misinterpretations. "We want to be the first to set an example of the new conduct of democratic freedom and offer the private sector the hand of who is convinced that there is no sense of having sectors of our country basing their proposals on confrontation and hate. This social pact must include all sectors of our nation," Jose Napoleon Duarte concluded.

UPD CALLS FOR 'IRREVERSIBLE' AGRARIAN REFORM

PA241557 Paris AFP in Spanish 1102 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 24 Sep (AFP) -- The irreversible character of agrarian reform must be guaranteed "without any doubt" in the constitutional provisions concerning the economic order, according to the Democratic Popular Unity (UPD), composed of several Salvadoran unions.

In particular, the UPD demanded guarantees on the legal transfer of expropriated property to peasant organizations and the entry of those titles in the property registry.

COPREFA REPORTS ARMY ACTIVITY IN SAN MIGUEL

PA262316 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee]

[Text] Over the weekend, the FMLN terrorists suffered 60 dead and an undetermined number of wounded in an unsuccessful attack on Nuevo Eden de San Juan, San Miguel Department. The Armed Forces regrets to report the death of 10 soldiers and 17 wounded in this action.

Meanwhile, the small towns of San Jorge and San Rafael Oriente, San Miguel Department, are being protected by members of the 3d Infantry Brigade, with support from other military units. The residents of these small towns are being threatened by terrorist groups that occupied the towns temporarily, looting, destroying property, and injuring civilian residents.

Clandestine sources have reported that the rebels inflicted many casualties on the Army in these towns, however, this is not true. Only small civil defense patrols were stationed in that area and because of their inferior number and in an effort to prevent innocent deaths, they chose to withdraw.

The invention of fights and casualties is a standard publicity procedure through which the subversive seek to attract the attention of the media, which do not usually verify this sort of message,thus permitting themselves to be used to revive the subversives' badly damaged image in the world community. One of the most recent such inventions was the attack on the 15 September Dam on the day it was inaugurated.

ARCE ZABLAH BRIGADE CLAIMS NEW VICTORIES

PA261728 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1415 GMT 26 Sep 83

[War report from Southern Group Commander Francisco Martinez of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade -- read by announcer]

[Text] On Sunday, 25 September, at 0300 our forces opened an attack on enemy positions of the National Guard in the town of Intipuca, La Union Department, made up of 40 National Guardsmen reinforced by paramilitary elements. In the morning our forces occupied the town as the enemy fled in disarray in the direction of the city of La Union, carrying 12 wounded soldiers and leaving behind 6 dead.

Our forces seized 12 G-3 rifles and a large amount of ammunition. After accomplishing our politico-military objectives, our forces later that day withdrew from Intipuca.

On the same day at 1525, FMLN forces ambushed an enemy patrol of the 3d Infantry Brigade stationed at San Miguel that was en route to Intipuca. Our forces exploded a mine and opened rifle fire near the (Recomatal) canton, causing an unknown number of casualties.

At 1615, another enemy patrol, also of the 3d Infantry Brigade and headed for Intipuca, was attacked near (El Saltario) canton by our forces, who destroyed a military vehicle carrying troops, inflicting more than six casualties.

Throughout the same day, 25 September, our forces occupied the towns of San Jorge and San Rafael Oriente, south of San Miguel Department, and engaged in political activities with the population.

At 2200, the Cazadores Battalion tried to recover the town of San Rafael Oriente, engaging in heavy fighting with the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade in areas between the towns of El Transito and San Rafael Oriente. By the end of the day, the enemy had failed in its mission and was forced by our revolutionary forces to retreat in disarray. The enemy suffered many casualties in this action. After accomplishing their objectives, our forces withdrew from San Jorge and San Rafael Oriente and proceeded to new combat actions.

On Sunday, 25 September, at 2100 our forces advanced toward the town of Chirilagua, San Miguel Department. The enemy forces in the town fled to avoid a confrontation with our Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade. Our forces then proceeded to occupy the town and seized eight rifles and additional war materiel.

In eastern El Salvador, our forces are taking over all enemy positions! Long live the Independence, Liberty, and Democracy for El Salvador campaign!

This report was signed by Commanders Claudio Armijo, Ana Guadalupe Martinez, and Juan Ramon Medrano, from the Southern Group of our brigade.

HAVANA ON GUERRILLA ACTIONS AGAINST GOVERNMENT

Fighting in Guazapa

PA232025 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 SEp 83

[Text] The guerrilla station Radio Farabundo Marti has announced that prolonged fighting has taken place in the Guazapa Volcano area, 24 km north of San Salvador, and that military troops there have sustained numerous but as yet an undetermined number of casualties. The station added that for 2 hours, a Salvadoran Air Force A-37 Dragonfly aircraft bombed El Platanar and El Zapote cantons, creating terror among the civilian population and causing destruction. According to the news agency SALPRES, heavy fighting took place in Jucuaran and in Jiquilisco Bay.

In Mexico, FDR President Guillermo Manuel Ungo has told the Mexican newspaper EL DIA that the so-called Salvadoran Peace Commission has adopted an ambiguous position by inviting the Salvadoran patriotic forces to reflect. He added that the commission ascribes a relevant role to the United States in a matter that calls for a national dialogue.

Earlier, Hector Oqueli, a member of the FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission, reported that the first formal talks between the Salvadoran guerrilla representatives and the Peace Commission created by Alvaro Magana's regime will be held in Bogota, the Colombian capital, on 29 September.

In Washington, meanwhile, it was learned last night that the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee has approved the delivery of $64.8 million in military aid for the Salvadoran tyranny during the fiscal year that begins in October. An additional $158 million in economic aid was also approved, but that allocation must be ratified by both houses of Congress.

From another quarter, the FMLN's Radio Venceremos has reported the death of Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona, or Clelia. According to the bulletin, Commander Clelia died while carrying out missions assigned to her by the revolutionary directorate. The station recalled that this outstanding combatant was released only a few months ago when the Salvadoran regime decreed an amnesty, but she immediately returned to the people's struggle. According to Radio Venceremos, the People's Revolutionary Army, one of the five organizations that comprises the FMLN, has suggested that all its camps hold posthumous events in honor of Commander Letona.

San Vicente, Usulutan Fighting

PA250317 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Guerrilla contingents and Army troops continue to fight in the southern areas of San Vicente and Usulutan Departments. It has been learned that several troop transports have been sent to southern San Vicente to reinforce the soldiers, who have been attacked by rebels in the cantons of (Achilco), San Antonio, (Caminos), and Dos Quebradas.

Several helicopter gunships are bombing the area between Tecoluca and San Vicente's capital city, which is almost under the total control of the guerrilla contingents. The rebels are also harassing the Army in an area of the coastal highway between the Oro Bridge and the San Nicolas Lempa, El Carmen, San Pedro, and El Castano cantons in Usulutan Department.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran Legal Assistance Office has charged that 2,527 civilians have been murdered by the Army and paramilitary forces in the first 6 months of this year. In the same period, those forces arrested 541 people whose whereabouts are still not known.

Army Loses Eight Dead

PA251856 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Heavy fighting has been reported during the past 24 hours in four departments of eastern El Salvador. Army spokesmen have admitted the loss of eight soldiers and a noncommissioned officer in these actions. The eight soldiers died in an ambush set by FMLN forces along the highway linking San Vicente and La Union Departments.

During a clash in the Cabanas area, an Army second lieutenant was killed, while other engagements have been reported in Usulutan Department, where government forces have been carrying out a new counterinsurgency operation for the past 4 days.

In San Miguel Department, the Salvadoran rebels attacked the towns of San Jorge and Neuvo Eden de San Juan.

Meanwhile, other sources have revealed that at the request of the United States, four members of the command staff of the so-called Inter-American Defense Board, headquartered in Washington, are conducting an inspection of Salvadoran military posts.

Five Villages Occupied

PA261605 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] In the past 48 hours, Salvadoran guerrilla forces have occupied five villages in the Departments of San Miguel and Morazan, while today the regime's Armed Forces have carried out intense bombings against presumed guerrilla positions on Guazapa Hill, 30 km from San Salvador, the capital.

Radio Venceremos, the official voice of the FMLN, has reported that this weekend the guerrillas occupied the villages of Eden de San Juan, San Jorge, and San Rafael del Oriente in San Miguel as part of the Independence, Liberty and Democracy for El Salavdor offensive. The rebels recovered many weapons and war materiel in the area.

In Morazan, the Salvadoran patriots occupied the villages of San Simon and Gualococti, where they held meetings with village residents.

Gregorio Rosas Chavez, the auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, said in his Sunday homily that during the past week 77 persons were killed in El Salvador and that there were more than 30 clashes between the Army and the guerrillas. He stated that from 16-22 September, 25 abductions were attributed to the death squads, which are manipulated by the extreme right of El Salvador.

Army Suffers 100 Casualties

PA261920 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Salvadoran Army sustained more than 100 casualties during clashes this weekend which enabled the FMLN guerrillas to occupy Nuevo Eden de San Juan, San Jorge, and San Rafael de Oriente, in San Miguel Department, and San Simon and (Oalocoxi), in Morazan Department.

Guerrilla Commander Joaquin Villalobos reported over the rebel station Radio Venceremos that in the course of these actions the insurgents captured 45 rifles, 1 cannon, 1 grenade launcher, and 35,000 rounds of ammunition. It has also been learned that eight soldiers died when the guerrillas ambushed a military patrol in San Vicente Department.

In San Salvador, the capital, the Salvadoran Single Trade Union Federation charged that its secretary general, Santiago Hernandez, has been kidnapped by armed civilians.

COMMANDER VILLALOBOS HAILS LATE COMMANDER CLELIA

PA230435 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Communique on the death of FMLN Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona, issued by the General Command of the People's Revolutionary Army ERP on 22 September, in Morazan; read by Commander Joaquin Villalobos, member of the FMLN General Command and of the ERP General Command]

[Text] The ERP General Command informs its combatants, the people, their vanguard -- the FMLN -- and the international community that Companera Lilian Mercedes Letona -- Commander Clelia -- died on 1 August while fulfilling a mission assigned to her by our organization.

After being released by the dictatorship, Commander Letona renewed her revolutionary work with our organization. Her death is a painful loss for our forces. However, the worth of her exemplary revolutionary record can ease this irreparable loss because her great virtues will be emulated by our combatants and militants, who will double their heroism, their discipline, their spirit of sacrifice, and their efforts to develop the political capacity of our forces.

At the moment of her death, Lilian Mercedes was a valuable member of the ERP Command and a member of our Central Committee. She was a founder of the ERP and the structures of our party. Lilian Mercedes was a soldier of integrity. She lived through difficult moments in the construction of our forces, but she never lost enthusiasm or confidence in victory.

Lilian Mercedes dealt with all aspects of our revolutionary war. This gave an integral quality to her contributions. Lilian Mercedes was an urban guerrilla, a political organizer of masses, and a forger of new party militants. She fought in the streets beside the people. She participated in the first guerrilla clashes at the beginning of the armed struggle in our country. She responded heroically to the most difficult test revolutionaries face -- torture and prison.

Lilian Mercedes defeated her torturers and questioners. She kept the secrets of our organization, an example of dignity and courage for those who tortured her. She had the virtue of being single-minded and of having great enthusiasm and joy for revolutionary tasks. Because of this, she earned the love and respect of all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Lilian Mercedes was one of those revolutionaries who works for the construction of the forces of the people. She did so with profound faith in victory and was ready to die if necessary to reach the objective. That was her disposition in those days when the possibility of victory appeared as only a dream in view of the superiority of the dictatorship's forces.

Lilian Mercedes, like Francisco Martinez, Gonzalo, and other revolutionaries who founded our forces, remind us of our first rifles, the street fighting, the manual mimeographs, of all the tools that, combined with our revolutionary heroes' will to fight have made it possible for us to have the forces today that allow us to win victories, a current reality.

The General Command of the ERP, because of the accomplishments of Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona [words indistinct] all the camps and structures of our organization throughout the country must carry out acts in honor of Commander Lilian Mercedes during the next 48 hours.

Our current combatants and militants, as well as future generations, will emulate our heroes' exceptional qualities, born out of the greatest love for the people. Our greatest heroes -- Rafael Arce, Francisco Martinez, Lilian Mercedes Letona [passage indistinct].

Lilian Mercedes is not dead. She will be present in every clash, in every victory, in every mission of our combatants.

Commander Lilian Mercedes: The fighters of the Rafael Arce Brigade salute you and hereby make the commitment that, inspired by your example, we will not fail our people. We will firmly maintain our decision to struggle for the Salvadoran revolution until we win or die. Commander Lilian Mercedes Letona: The fighters of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade salute you and tell you: Until victory, always!

On the memory of the dead, of our dead, we swear to win! Revolution or death! We will win!

[Signed] Commander Jorge Melendez, Commander Juan Ramon Madrano, Commander Ana Sonia Medina, Commander Claudio Rabindranath Armijo, Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez, Commander Mercedes del Carmen Letona, Commander Jaoquin Villalobos

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT MEJIA INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT SITUATION

PM231313 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Sep 83 p 5

[Interview with Guatemalan President General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores by Marcel Niedergang in Guatemala City; date not given]

[Text] Guatemala City -- One month after the "defenestration" of General Rios Montt, there is still a mood of expectancy in Guatemala. The Catholic Church is very satisfied with the departure of the religious fanatic whose main advisers were members of the Church of the Word and who preached every Sunday.

But it is still on the defensive in the face of the spectacular progress made by the different American Protestant churches. The political parties, especially the National Liberation Movement (extreme right), are speculating on early elections, but General Mejia, the new head of state, has merely promised to honor the scheduled election timetable: the establishment of a constituent assembly in the spring of 1984.

In any case, the colonels and senior officers are making no secret of their satisfaction at the restoraiton of respect for heirarchical rules. One of the many reasons for Rios Montt's fall is, according to them, the excessively prominent place taken by young officers admitted into the narrow circle of advisers to the ousted head of state. The "state of emergency" decreed in June when Rios Montt was facing an initial ultimatum from the angry colonels has been suppressed, and the restrictions imposed on freedom of speech have also been lifted. The result is that the capital's newspapers are again carrying the long gloomy succession of reports on disappearances and kidnappings, especially in the San Marcos Region, of corpses of torture victims, and of violent clashes between the guerrillas and the forces of order.

Thus, although the relatively relaxed atmosphere established in the capital 1 year ago continues, there is still very great tension in many regions of the interior and there are still unanswered questions on the new leadership team's policies. Things are, however, are more clear on one point: Guatemala without Rios Montt intends to play a more dynamic role at the diplomatic level in Central America. That was confirmed by Gen Mejia during the interview which he granted to us in the presidential palace.

"People claimed that I said that the Contadora Group countries had no business in Central America," he stated. "That is not true. I said that anything that could promote peace in Central America was welcome, wherever it came from. And I think that Central America's problems must be solved by the Central Americans themselves. That is what I said immediately after the change of government on 9 August. We are definitely not opposed to the Contadora Group's action; quite the reverse. But the final decision must rest with us."

According to the new Guatemalan head of state one of the major obstacles to a negotiated solution is the presence of foreign "advisers" in the region. There are Americans, of course, but Gen Mejia said he is "much more worried by the presence in Central America of advisers from other countries, Cuba for instance."

Improving the Image

That distinction prompted a question: Did the coup d'etat which made Gen Mejia head of state have Washington's blessing? "That is completely untrue," the man concerned said angrily. "The change of government -- because we insist that it was not a coup d'etat -- was planned and executed by Guatemala's Armed Forces and by them alone. Nobody intervened aside from them."

Nonetheless, the lifting of the suspension of U.S. military aid, a decision by President Carter, seems likely. Moreover, Gen Mejia said, "We have been awaiting that decision for several years now. Since the first day of the suspension. Because it is vital to a country like ours which has been facing a subversion problem for 23 years."

Nonetheless, Gen Mejia admitted that the armed insurrection which has been going on in Guatemala for 25 years also has internal economic and social causes.

"But," he added, "we are now fighting to strip the guerrillas of that argument. We are fighting to take away the water in which the fish swim, to quote Mao Zedong. We have won back the masses by turning around the Chinese leader's proposition: Civil defense enables us to go beyond the purely military stage of the antiguerrilla struggle. This civil defense system is crucial. The civilian self-defense units are the Army's eyes and also its logistical bases."

Finally, with regard to Guatemala, that left the very old question of repeated human rights violations. What does Gen Mejia think?

Answer: "I agree that it is necessary to improve our image abroad, and everything we are now doing is aimed at that. For example, we have disbanded the special military courts set up by the previous government. All the measures passed by the new government are certainly aimed at further improving our image. An OAS Human Rights Commission visited Guatemala and it greatly emphasized those special courts. It is part history for us now. Nonetheless, it is natural that in a final phase of subversion some elements should become common law delinquents. And it is possible that some people might assert there is a resurgence of violence. I prefer to think that these are temporary upheavals and to adhere to our line of conduct."

FOREIGN MINISTER TO PURSUE BELIZE ISSUE AT UN

PA270324 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Alvaro Galvez]

[Excerpts] The case of Belize will again be discussed at the UN General Assembly session in New York, according to Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran.

The Guatemalan foreign minister made a brief statement to PRENSA LIBRE, saying that "our country will again take the case involving Guatemala's historical and geographic rights over that territory to the United Nations."

Andrade gave no explanation of the policy that will be adopted toward the claim; however, he did reiterate that the current government's position will follow that adopted by former President Efrain Rios Montt.

The former president stressed emphatically that "Guatemala would claim only the district of Toledo," thus obtaining an outlet to the Caribbean.

Nevertheless, politics have now changed. THere is no information available as to details of the claim that will be presented at the United Nations by Foreign Minister Andrade, president of the Guatemalan delegation to the international meeting.

Although General Mejia Victores' stand has not yet been revealed, it is expected that the government might now claim an 11-km-wide strip, beginning at the Sarstun River, which now divides Izabal Department and the claimed territory.

It is also expected that Foreign Minister Andrade will announce our real position on this longstanding problem, which seems endless, at the United Nations in the next few days.

TRIBUNAL REJECTS CHANGE IN ELECTORAL CALENDAR

PA241709 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Guatemalan Supreme Electoral Tribunal has announced that nothing would be gained by advancing the date for elections to the Constituent Assembly.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal issued an official statement yesterday recommending that no changes be made to the calendar approved by the government and most of the political committees for the election of the Constituent Assembly.

According to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, it would be unrealistic to shorten the recently approved electoral calendar since voters must still be registered and the political parties need time to adequately organize themselves. If the electoral process is brought forward, it would have a negative effect on the country's democratic opening.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal beleives that any haste in reducing the provisional government's term to a few months would have a negative effect on the democratic opening sought by the country.

The Electoral Tribunal official who released this information noted that cedulas between the numbers of 30,000 and 40,000 are lost, because they were never issued to any citizen. This situation would serve to confirm the repeated accusations that a large number of cedulas have been forged in several departments; this would cast doubts on the honesty of any election where this document is used.

EDITORIAL OPPOSES DISSOLVING STATE COUNCIL

PA231625 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 22 Sep 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Who Will Draft the New Electoral Law?"]

[Text] The announcement that the State Council will began to discuss a bill on a temporary law which will only be in effect for the election of the National Constituent Assembly brings the following question to the surface: How long will it take to draft, discuss, and approve this new law, considering that the State Council is about to be dissolved?

This leads us to two more questions: Will the new transitory law be studied in a hurry by the State Council, or will this government body continue to exist for as long as it takes to draft and approve this new law? If the State Council is dissolved, as has been announced for some time, who will draft the new electoral law? We must remember that the State Council has a corporative form, representing the various sectors of our society. The dissolution of the council is not advisable at this time, when the draft of a new law is under consideration. In order to promulgate this law, which will regulate election of the Constituent Assembly, the council will have to meet and make decision that must be made public to allow discussion at all possible levels. Thus, the functioning of the council will necessarily have to be confirmed.

In addition, it should be noted that the decisions to introduce the new law comes at a most untimely moment, when the council has already prepared a judicial instrument that has been published by the media and when there are plans to change the already approved timetable in order to advance the new election date by 4 months.

All this is happening at a time when the entire world is loudly demanding the democratization of repressive regimes in Chile, Argentina, Pakistan, Turkey, and the Philippines, among others, where people are seeking democratic forms of government.

Meanwhile, locally it seems that we are trying to disrupt the process that is already underway to return to forms of government that have already been or are about to be discarded.

Guatemala is not an island. It is part of a conflictive area of the planet, where a peripheral war [guerra periferica] is being waged by the two great centers of world power. Guatemala is one of the targets in this confrontation, and the democratic countries of the Western world maintain that the establishment of democratic governments is the only solution to socialist expansionism.

Therefore, we cannot turn away from the path we have already started toward democratization. It is imperative that the council remain; that the people's representation in the decision-making process not be ended; that the judicial instruments that serve as the basis for the democratization process remain unaltered; and that the electoral calendar remain unchanged.

We know that there are pressures from groups that want to accelerate the process for their own benefit, however, the interests of the masses should prevail in the government's decision. It should not embark upon actions that will further tarnish the country's world image.

REPORTAGE ON FIGHTING BETWEEN ARMY, GUERRILLAS

Rebel Offensive in North

PA232000 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2025 GMT 22 Sep 83

[By Carlos Rodolfo Mobil]

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 22 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- After several months of little insurgent activity, the guerrillas have in the past few hours launched attacks in different parts of the country which have caused the Army more than 15 casualties, in what seems to be the beginning of a new rebel offensive.

Newspapers have reported that the top leaders of the Guatemalan Labor Party, PGT; the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, EGP; the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA; and the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, met early this month "to reorient their future action and launch a new offensive." The meeting of top leaders of the four rebel groups, which are organized under the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, also served "to analyze internal divisions in the organization and the formation of other small guerrilla groups," the same sources reported.

Everything seems to indicate that the results of the meeting are beginning to show with the increase of guerrilla activities throughout the country, since the Army announced a "change in tactics" in the rebel attacks.

Colonel Edgar Djalma Dominguez, Armed Forces information chief, said during a news conference today that the rebels have transferred their actions from the Guatemalan Highlands to the country's northern region -- particularly, to Peten Department. According to Col Dominguez this change is due "to the Armed Forces strict control of the Highlands," where, Dominguez said, "the guerrillas have received serious blows." Col Dominguez added that the Army has contol over the Highlands (El Quiche, Huehuetenango, San Marcos, and Quetzaltenango) and Alta Verapaz and Baja Verapaz Departments in the north where most of the clashes between the Army and the guerrillas have taken place.

Based on the rebels' recent attacks, the guerrilla actions will be carried out in sectors where there is little military vigilance or where the ground is more favorable to the rebels' attacks.

Havana: Army Units Ambushed

PA241753 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Guatemalan guerrillas have inflicted 15 casualties on the Army, including 5 dead, during two ambushes on military vehicles in Peten Department. The first of the two actions occurred in Los Chorros, La Libertad municipality, when the rebels exploded a mine as a military vehicle carrying troops drove by. This action resulted in 5 soldiers killed and 6 wounded. After the attack, the Army ordered a search during which the guerrillas again attacked and wounded five more soldiers.

Air Force Bombs Guerrillas

PA241650 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1633 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 24 Sep (DPA) -- A television newscast has reported that the Guatemalan Air Force today bombed mountainous regions in Huehuetenango Province (in the southwest, on the Mexican border) where guerrilla groups are active. According to the report, some 150 rebels camping near the Mexican border arrived at Santa Cruz Barillas in that province and, after being detected, were attacked by the Air Force. The results of the attack are not yet known.

Meanwhile, the Army reported that a clash took place recently in Costa Cuca, Quezaltenango, leaving 8 guerrillas dead and allowing the military to seize weapons, equipment, and other material.

ORPA Hideout Destroyed

PA270214 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Security forces destroyed a subversive hideout in Zone 2 of Guatemala City, as an epilogue to a week marked by renewed guerrilla attacks and heavy police and military activities against the rebel groups.

The ORPA [Armed People's Revolutionary Organization] hideout that the government forces destroyed was at 2d Street and 12th Avenue, in Zone 2 of the capital. The police report reveals that they received information that suspicious-looking persons constantly visited the place. They therefore decided to organize a raid.

The police found no one at the house, but there was a large amount of propaganda, including sheets printed with ORPA's letters. The police reported that a sound-proofed room was being constructed in the house; it is assumed that the group planned to use the room to isolate future kidnap victims. It was also reported that no weapons were found because the subversives took them when they left. The police are now attempting to determine who owns the house and are searching for its former occupants.

The hideout was discovered a few hours after a national police substation in the 1 July neighborhood came under armed attack last Friday night, as a result of which a policeman and a civilian were killed. Another substation had been attacked 2 days earlier in the interior, when an armed group killed the chief of police in San Antonio Suchitepequez. In addition, new clashes were reported in the southwest over the weekend, with a death toll of eight guerrillas. The clashes took place in Costa Cuca, Quezaltenango Department. Three additional victims were reported following a clash between a civil self-defense patrol and a subversive group in Huehuetenango. During this last incident, a member of the civil patrol and two subversives, one apparently a foreigner, were killed.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES CONFIRM KILLING OF REBEL LEADER

PA231355 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Sep 83 p 2

[Communique issued by the Honduran Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 21 September 1983]

[Excerpts] Regarding the death of guerrilla Jose Maria Reyes Mata, the Honduran Armed Forces' Public Relations Directorate officially informs the national and international public of the following:

1. At approximately 1700 on Sunday, 18 September 1983, a clash occurred between an Army patrol and subversive criminals some 15 km from a place known as "Piedras Azules," on the right bank of Patuca River in Olancho Department. Eight rebels were killed in this clash, including Jose Maria Reyes Mata (alias "Pablo Mendoza"), who was recognized because of his personal characteristics.

2. To corroborate the preliminary information provided by the patrol involved in the clash, the Armed Forces ordered that Reyes Mata's picture and fingerprints be taken. The picture and fingerprints were compared with those in the files of the Department of National Investigation and we were able to fully identify the guerrilla.

3. The counterinsurgency operation is still underway in an attempt to capture guerrillas who are still in the area.

4. The Armed Forces reiterate to the citizens that they will remain firm in their commitment to prevent subversives from disturbing the country's peace.

ARMY KILLS 16 GUERRILLAS IN VARIOUS CLASHES

PA261834 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Report from Catacamas by correspondent Omar Sair Mejia]

[Excerpts] This is a report from the mountains of Olancho, where clashes between our Army and guerrillas have been taking place, with the following results: A total of 16 guerrillas killed has been reported by the Huasprasni Task Force; the Army is said to have clashed more than five times with the guerrillas; the insurgents seized the home of a humble family and killed the mother of a 6-month-old baby girl; and [guerrilla leader] Teofilo Martinez was killed in a clash. We are reporting on (La Union de Capapan), some 80 km away from this city.

So far, 16 subversives have been killed in clashes between our troops and the rebel contingent that entered Honduras from Nicaragua in June, through the area of the Huasprasni River and [name indistinct], en route to the city of Catacamas. Of the clashes reported so far, the first took place on 7 September, with no casualties reported on either side. The Army, however, did manage to seize from the subversive group several knapsacks, an RPG rifle, and (?7) powerful walkie-talkie radios. According to reliable sources, this was an unexpected subversive attack.

Six rebels were later seen advancing in (Iracielo), which belongs to (La Union de Capapan). Heavy fighting ensued between the special troops and the rebels, five of whom were killed. The sixth escaped.

On 11 September several civilians who have been very interested in fighting the subversives warned a patrol command in the area that four guerrillas were roving about, intending to attack their camp. The militarymen investigated this report. Several civilians approached the patrol to warn them that the guerrillas were near. Our soldiers took their positions and confirmed that the commander of the insurgent group was Teofila Martinez, the well-known recruiter and activist of the National Union of Peasants. The troops immediately asked the guerrillas to surrender, but they responded by launching a powerful grenade. The Army patrol immediately sought cover and a shootout ensued. The subversives relentlessly pursued one of our soldiers, who heroically defended himself for over 20 minutes. Martinez and several other guerrillas fell in this clash, but two of their group managed to escape.

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT DENIES SAFECONDUCT TO OSORIO

PA231354 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Sep 83 p 16

[Text] According to a Foreign Secretariat source, the Foreign Secretariat has refused to grant a safeconduct to Guillermo Osorio, a Honduran who sought asylum at the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa more than 10 days ago. It was confirmed that Osorio asked for political asylum at the Mexican Embassy, which granted it and immediately requested a safeconduct from the Honduran Foreign Secretariat. However, the secretariat has replied that Osorio is not being persecuted by the police or Army and, therefore, it cannot issue the document.

According to the Foreign Secretariat, the Mexican Embassy can take Osorio out of the country whenever it wants, but no safeconduct will be granted because he is not being persecuted by any of the security organizations. Osorio is very well known at the Central Organization of Workers, of which he was a member. He worked at the Choluteca sugar mill until last week.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED

PA262331 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0030 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Miguel Ortiz, a widely-known leader of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, was kidnapped last night in Tegucigalpa by three unidentified armed people. The kidnapping was revealed today by members of the Christian Democratic Party.

The vehicle belonging to the political leader, who also has close links to the General Workers' Confederation, was intercepted by unidentified people in two cars northeast of Tegucigalpa at about 1900. Ortiz was then taken away in one of the cars used for the abduction.

LEFTIST PROFESSOR SEIZED BY 'ARMED INDIVIDUALS'

PA241426 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Report by Anariba Calix in San Pedro Sula -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Joaquin Portillo, a professor at the Regional University Center of the North, CURN, in San Pedro Sula, was kidnapped yesterday by several unidentified armed individuals at his home in this city's Aurora section. Portillo, who is about 40, white, and of average height, was forced by the unidentified individuals into a vehicle. His whereabouts are unknown.

Portillo is from El Progreso, Yoro Department. He taught in several secondary schools in La Lima and El Progreso before going to the Soviet Union, where he received a BA in history from Patrice Lumumba University. Portillo is a well-known leftist, a fact that might account for the incident. Students from the CURN and various secondary schools, as well as members of the university union staged public demonstrations last night in San Pedro Sula to protest Portillo's disappearance.

Abductors Release Professor

PA261857 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Telephone interview by Rodrigo Wong Arevalo with Anibal Delgado Fiallos, secretary general of the Honduran Patriotic Front, in San Pedro Sula -- live]

[Excerpt] [Wong Arevalo] (?This morning) we have Anibal Delgado Fiallos on the phone, directly from San Pedro Sula. He has been telling us that Professor Portillo, whose disappearance he denounced last week, was freed in a village near that jurisdiction. Mr Delgado Fiallos, we will put you on the air so you can report on Professor Portillo's reappearance.

[Delgado Fiallos] Thank you very much. As reported last week, three armed men kidnapped Professor Joaquin Arnulfo Portillo near his home at 1430 on Thursday. They put him in a vehicle and took him to an undisclosed location. The university community here in San Pedro Sula and the popular organizations in San Pedro Sula and the popular organizations in the northern part of the country immediately mobilized to demand his release and respect for his life. Everything was ready to continue the mobilization today, Monday, but on Saturday evening we were notified that he was home.

According to Portillo, at 2200 on Saturday his abductors freed him near a village known as Armenta, in the western part of San Pedro Sula, near the regional University Center of the North. After being abandoned there, and once the vehicle that drove him there had disappeared, Portillo began walking toward the Northern Highway, where he took a taxi that drove him home. We visited him yesterday, Sunday. He has several serious bruises, and he says he was tortured and asked various political questions.

The important thing is that Portillo is back alive and that as soon as he recovers from the blows dealt him he will resume his academic activities in the Regional University Center of the North. We seriously believe that if it was not the police who captured and tortured him, then it was the paramilitary groups, for in this country they enjoy police protection to carry out this type of action with total impunity.

NICARAGUA

ARCE COMMENTS ON COMING KISSINGER VISIT

PA270000 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1541 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Managua, 26 Sep (DPA) -- Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, will arrive in Managua on 15 October at the head of a special commission whose task is to inform U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the Central American situation.

Meanwhile, the coordinator of the governing FSLN political committee has said that the visit by the former secretary of state, who was named to the commission by the U.S. President, and those of Richard Stone, special ambassador for Central America, are examples of the U.S. contribution to the "dialogue" on regional problems. Commander Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the FSLN political committee, questioned about Kissinger's presence in Managua, said that a pluralistic program is being prepared for the U.S. politician, which will include visits with opposition political parties, the church, and economic and social sectors.

Asked about the U.S. gunboats off the Central American coasts, Arce said that this was a mistaken measure taken by the U.S. Government in the hope of "forcing us to back down." Arce said: They can bring as many frigates as they like, and we wouldn't care. We have our points of view based on principled policies, and we will defend them at all costs and on any ground." The political leader, who also belongs to the FSLN National Directorate, said: "We would like to see that ground be a negotiating table, but if we must defend our points of view on the battlefield we will."

MANAGUA CRITICIZES SENATE COMMITTEE AID APPROVAL

PA231545 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Reagan administration has approved $19 million in aid for the Somozist counterrevolutionaries, Washington news media reported. The same sources said that the aid to the Somozists operating in Honduras and Costa Rica was approved by the Senate Intelligence Committee, using as pretext that Nicaragua is promoting the revolution movements in Central America.

International political observers expressed disapproval of the Senate decision, which they termed an attack on peace in the region which encourages criminal actions against the Nicaraguan Sandinist people's revolution. The observers added that the U.S. Senate has become an accomplice in crimes against Nicaragua, supporting the alleged democracy of the Reagan administration. It is no secret that the $19 million approved by the Senate Intelligence Committee will go to buy arms, ammunition, and explosives to murder children, women, and the Nicaraguan population, observers pointed out. They added that this decision will cause serious dispute in the House of Representatives.

ORTEGA VIEWS APPROVAL OF U.S. AID TO CONTRAS

PA261849 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 83

["Free Nicaragua Speaks" program with comments by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, during a "Face the People" program held in Managua "some 24 hours ago," place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government persists in its warmongering policy against Nicaragua. You probably heard a couple of weeks ago that the U.S. Congress rejected the government's policy of continuing covert operations against Nicaragua. We all know what these covert operations are: Operations directed by the U.S. Government through the CIA to supply the Somozist guardsmen with weapons, to deploy planes to bomb our cities, to launch all these sabotage and murder operations against our people. Well, the U.S. Congress rejected this policy. However, yesterday a U.S. Senate commission approved this policy. In other words, this U.S. Senate commission disregarded the opinion of U.S. congressmen who were merely reflecting the opinion of the U.S. people, who are against their country's covert operations against the Nicaraguan people.

Therefore, yesterday the U.S. Senate, I mean a U.S. Senate commission, approved $19 million, I repeat, $19 million -- 190 million cordovas -- in aid; $19 million earmarked for the continuation of activities of Somozist guardsmen against the Nicaraguan people. This was approved yesterday. This matter must now be discussed by the entire U.S. Senate, which will probably accept it too. There are two opposing views: that of the Senate and that of the Congress [as heard]. What will happen? Well, the U.S. congressmen have the last word.

However, the truth is that the policy of aggression against Nicaragua continues to be approved. This is totally antidemocratic. The United States, which so often talks about democracy, is acting in a way that is not a good example, decent, or democratic -- but is actually the antithesis of democracy -- in its stand against Nicaragua.

ORTEGA TRAVELS TO NEW YORK FOR UN MEETING

Havana Reports Arrival

PA261654 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has arrived in New York to take part in the debates of the 38th UN General Assembly, which he will address on Tuesday.

Moments before leaving for the United States, Ortega said in Managua that the air attacks by the counterrevolution -- Washington's latest tactic in the escalation of aggression -- prove the wisdom of the Nicaraguan Government's position regarding the need to obtain airplanes and antiaircraft weapons.

Daniel Ortega added that the counterrevolution is attempting to bomb targets of the frail Nicaraguan economy. If successful, this would seriously damage the country, he noted.

Addresses Nonaligned UN Members

PA270344 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, before members of the Nonaligned Movement meeting in the UN Building in New York City -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President: First of all, I would like to greet you on behalf of Nicaragua and the Latin American countries that are members of this movement. I also want to express recognition of the efforts that you have made in support of this movement, particularly by holding this meeting within the framework of the 38th UN General Assembly.

This meeting is being held at a time when additional critical factors are being added to a situation that was already very critical when our movement met in New Delhi. To the serious economic crisis, to the grave political and military problems in various regions of the world and to existing tension in the world, we must now add new elements. Given this situation, it is clear that the members of this movement -- and the regions of which we are a part -- have become immediate victims of the greater friction in the world.

For this reason, we feel that we must take a more firm and vigorous stand in demand of specific steps toward disarmament and a freeze on nuclear weapons, as well as of concrete answers to existing problems that cause the increasingly critical world situation to grow even worse. We feel that it is necessary to devote our efforts to more direct actions in support of agreements reached at the New Delhi meeting on the various problems that were discussed there, and that affect countries of this movement in various regions and that are present in different situations.

In the specific case of our Latin American region, we discussed problems such as the need to demand respect for the independence and territorial integrity of Guyana, Belize, and Suriname; the support necessary for Argentina's right to recover its sovereignty over the Malvinas; support for Bolivia's right to recover its outlet to the sea; our condemnation of actions against and pressures on Grenada; the lifting of the blockade against Cuba; the withdrawal of the Guantanamo base; and full respect for the Panamanian people's Torrijos-Carter Treaty.

In Managua and New Delhi, we discussed the Central American problem -- it was said that the imperialist intervention and repression in El Salvador prevent a solution to the problems there. We demanded an end to this intervention, asking the United States to adopt constructive positions and suggesting the need for a negotiated solution. As for Nicaragua, we charged that the threats of aggression were part of a premeditated plan, and we welcomed various peace initiatives. The Coordinating Bureau was asked to follow these incidents very closely. We asked and urged the United States to avoid any action that would increase tension.

The six Contadora points were approved at the Coordinating Bureau meeting held on]7 July. These six points were proposed by Nicaragua, and the Contadora Group received our support. The United States was asked not to send its fleet. However, we now find ourselves in a situation that has grown worse rather than better. It has grown worse amid this climate of world tension, amid a breakdown, and amid problems of all kinds, thus requiring that we participate even more actively in the debates that are scheduled on these different topics in this 38th UN General Assembly meeting.

Mr President, Messrs representatives, on behalf of the Latin American members of this movement -- and we are certain that the solidarity of all of the Latin American countries increases as new countries join our movement -- we want to congratulate you on the initiative taken and the work done by the chairman of our movement, with the certainty that we will move forward.

REPORTAGE ON COMMENTS BY BORGE IN W. EUROPE

Interviewed by LE MONDE

PM210949 Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Sep 83 p 7

[Interview with Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Jean-Pierre Clerc in Paris -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge began a European tour in Paris on 13 September. He has seen or will see [Premier] Pierre Mauroy, as well as [Minister for State for Interior] Deferre; [Minister of Culture] Lang; [external Relations Minister] Cheysson; [Minister Delegate to Minister of External Relations for Cooperation] Nucci; [PS First Secretary] Jospin, and [PCF Secretary General] Marchais. On 14 September Mr Deferre, his French counterpart, accepted an invitation to visit Managua in the near future.

What is the reason for this European tour, which started in Paris 13 September, during which the most prestigious of the Sandinist leaders will meet with four prime ministers, including Pierre Mauroy this Thursday, 15 September? (footnote 1) (in addition to Mr Mauroy, Mr Borge is scheduled to meet with Portuguese Prime Minister Soares, Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez, and Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers) "I would like people here," Mr Borge explained, "to finally discover America -- the whole America! I have come to tell the Europeans that we, the Latins of this continent, exist too. This fact is somewhat concealed by the propaganda put out by the great transnational media; I am dismayed to see that that region of the world which gave birth to Dante, Goethe, Hugo, Marx, Hegel, and so many others now only thinks in accordance with THE READER'S DIGEST. Therefore, I have come to explain direct, to the Europeans the truth as we see it."

What is this "truth: which the Nicaraguan interior minister intends to convey to his French, Spanish, Portuguese, Netherlands, and Italian interlocutors over the next few days?

Answer: That ours is a small country which has been attacked in the name of an extremist, quasimessianic, and rather fiendish philosophy -- that of Mr Reagan; that the United States is assuming the right to tolerate in Latin America only governments which carry out its will; that there is a U.S. plan, using Honduras as a base and former Somoza National Guards and people disappointed by our revolution as tools, to install a provisional counterrevolutionary government in our country, in part of our national territory -- a government which Washington would immediately recognize. Meanwhile in the name of that plan, Nicaraguans are being murdered and goods which are essential to us destroyed. That is the truth as we see it."

Freedom of Speech Limited

According to Mr Borge, the truth has been deliberately distorted to facilitate that plan: "I could repeat to you what is being said about us! that the country is governed by a Marxist dictatorship, that religion is being persecuted, that we have become a satellite of Moscow. Well, do you think that if we were afraid of our people, we would have armed them to the teeth to defend the revolution? Do you think that if we had a passion for servitude, we would not have done the easiest thing -- become a U.S. satellite? Do you think that priests would remain in the government and top administration for a moment longer if we were persecuting Christians (footnote 2) (the nine-man delegation accompanying Mr Borge openly includes a Catholic nun and a Protestant minister).

Question: Isn't Monisgnor Ovando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, saying some very harsh things about the regime?

Answer: It is true, we have some problems with him. But it is not because he is a priest, it is because he has becomé leader of the reactionary party in Nicaragua.

Question: What about press Censorship?

Answer: Yes, we have limited freedom of speech because we are at war. As soon as the aggression against us stops, we will lift those restrictions; that might coincide with the election process in 1985, which we have promised and which we will carry out.

Question: What about the violence against the Miskito Indians?

Answer: It is possible to be revolutionaries without being antropologists! Our young cadres arrived on the Atlantic coast ignorant of all the characteristics of this ethnic minority. They asked them to support the revolution in a very mechanical way. The Indians had a leader, Steadman Fagoth, who was formerly an official in the Somoza police. They were told that. Well, you can imagine that the Miskitos stood by their leaders without considering what they thought: that is one of their ethnic characteristics! Propaganda seized on that and there was trouble. That is what happened! [answer ends]

That, in fact, does not sound like the usual stilted language of infallible revolutions. And what else is said about Nicaragua? Oh, yes, that it imitates the Cuban model in too servile a way. Mr Borge does not agree. "They have 1 party; we have 11. They shoot people; we have abolished capital punishment. They have one leader; we compromise a collegial leadership with nine members. And our relations with the Catholic Church are in no way comparable. So where is the Cuban influence? Yes, Cuban influence exists -- our literacy campaign, for example. But there are deep differences in style."

Discusses C.A. Revolution

PM221157 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 14 Sep 83 p 5

[Interview with Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Rafael Fraguas in Madrid on 13 September]

[Excerpt] Madrid -- Question: To what extent are the joint maneuvers now taking place in Honduras and off Nicaragua now affecting your country's internal situation?

Answer: They are an influence inasmuch as they are bringing our people closer together in the defense of the homeland, further strengthening the people's morale, and neutralizing political activity against the revolution. In Nicaragua, those who do not support the defense of the homeland are against the revolution. This is neither a threat nor a coercive measure, but a simple matter of conscience and national dignity. There has been speculation that our bold decisions on peace are in response to these outside military pressures. This is not true. On 19 July, we formulated our peace policy, which is simply a continuation of our traditional peaceful policy, worked out over 4 years of revolution. We have always been favored advancing toward peace and depriving the enemy of pretexts and weapons within a consistent diplomatic strategy.

Question: What governs whether or not war in Central America becomes generalized?

Answer: It depends on what pressure Ronald Reagan gets from his own people, from U.S. congressmen and senators, and from U.S., Western, and world public opinion. It also depends on us, because any sign of weakness on our part could unleash a new kind of aggression against us. The blows we have dealt to the armed counterrevolution could lead to new options such as, for instance, a decision that the Honduran Army should intervene directly in our country. Unless the Reagan administration's will to destroy our revolution is politically neutralized, the aggression could escalate to new levels. This is why we are adopting methods of deterrence, developing our ideas, and preparing for war.

Question: To what extent is the course of the revolutions in El Salvador and Guatemala affecting the stability of the Nicaraguan revolution?

Answer: The Nicaraguan revolution has altered the political geography of the whole of Central America, and the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador has been influenced by this. I must tell you that if this struggle implies problems for Nicaragua, then they are welcome, we accept them willingly and gladly. In fact, many of the problems we are enduring are due to the conduct of the Salvadoran revolutionaries' armed struggle.

The conduct of this struggle obeys the objective and subjective conditions of the Salvadoran revolutionary process; we have had nothing to do with this process directly. There is a natural process of revolutionary development in Central America. There is a natural legitimate revolutionary birth. There will be no "cesarean."

Supports Contadora 'In Principle'

PA241544 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Madrid, Spain -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez has announced in Madrid that the FSLN is studying the declaration of objectives for peace in Central America drafted by the Contadora Group and that, in principle, the FSLN will support the declaration.

In regard to the Contadora Group's peace efforts, Borge said that they have made qualitative progress. He also said that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has played an important role in holding back the aggression against the Sandinist people's revolution.

Borge, who is on a tour of six West European countries, denounced at a news conference the increase in counterrevolutionary activities. He added that the Sandinist People's Army had recently smashed a counterrevolutionary offensive.

CUBAN MISSION ARRIVES TO STRENGTHEN TRADE

PA251910 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1750 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Managua, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- An official Cuban mission headed by Osmani Cienfuegos, president of the Secretariat of the Cuban Council of Ministers, arrived in this country to participate in a meeting of the Nicaraguan-Cuban Mixed Commission. Cienfuegos, who is also a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, arrived on Saturday. He will meet in Managua tomorrow, Monday, with the Nicaraguan delegation headed by Sergio Ramirez, member of this country's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

According to official sources, the Mixed Commission will assess the results achieved during the first year of a commercial agreement between Nicaragua and Cuba. The agreement facilitates the exchange of industrial products, veterinary equipment, glass containers, trailers, sports articles, and automobile tires. The possibility of concluding new cooperation agreements between the two countries in the upcoming year will also be discussed.

Will Sign Trade Agreement

FL261253 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1135 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Managua -- Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and secretary of the Cuban Council of Ministers, yesterday visited the Patrico Arguello (Ryan) Geothermal Electric Power Plant at the Monotombo Volcano, 60 km northwest of Managua.

Accompanied by Sergio Ramirez, member of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, Osmani Cienfuegos toured the plant which has a generating capacity of 35 megawatts per hour, representing 12 percent of the electric power generated in the country.

Osmani Cienfuegos arrived in Managua last Saturday at the head of a Cuban delegation to evaluate the trade agreement between the two countries on the first anniversary of its signature. It was also reported that a new trade agreement between Cuba and Nicaragua will be signed this afternoon at the Nicaraguan Government House.

FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE DENIES LINK WITH ETA MEMBER

PA221223 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has countered the slanderous campaign being waged by the pro-imperialist media in Costa Rica in an effort to link the arrest of a Spanish citizen with our country.

A few moments ago, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry issued a communique declaring that the arrest of a Spanish citizen in Costa Rica has served as the springboard for the initiation of a new slanderous campaign to mar Nicaragua's image. The Foreign Ministry communique stressed that a clumsy effort was made to involve the Nicaraguan Government in alleged plans against counterrevolutionary individuals who are active in Costa Rica.

The diplomatic note added that the campaign is being promoted by various international news agencies, particularly by certain Costa Rican media. It noted that the escalating campaign to discredit Nicaragua is taking place at a time when peaceful solutions for the Central American crisis are being sought and when efforts are underway to strengthen trust and cooperation between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Furthermore, the Foreign Ministry communique said, the slanderous campaign coincides with an escalation in the aggression and threats leveled by the U.S. Government against the Nicaraguan people.

It concluded by noting that it is not possible to separate this new campaign from the broad U.S. plan to overthrow and destroy the revolution and to provoke the international isolation of Nicaragua. After rejecting all slanderous remarks, the communique emphasized Nicaragua's respect for other states.

PSC SEEKS RATIFICATION OF CONTADORA OBJECTIVES

PA260321 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2346 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Nicaragua, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan opposition Social Christian Party (PSC) today asked the Sandinist Government to "immediately" ratify the "document of objectives" drafted by the Contadora Group.

At the closing session of the 10th PSC convention, the new President Agustin Jarquin Anaya said that public ratification of the Contadora document must be made Tuesday by Daniel Ortega, Coordinator of the National Government Junta, when he addresses the 38th UN General Assembly. Jarquin Anaya said that the Nicaraguan Government's support of the "document of objectives" recently agreed upon by the four Contadora Group countries' foreign ministers "would be a serious contribution to peace and democracy."

Before leaving for New York on Saturday, Daniel Ortega said that the Contadora Group's declaration on objectives was drafted for "the group's internal use only." He said that Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega visited Nicaragua to deliver a letter from the presidents of the Contadora Group countries asking the Central American governments to support the "document of objectives."

Ortega said that the UN General Assembly "is not the proper place in which to discuss the document," which contains the foundations for coexistence and peace in Central America, according to diplomatic sources.

LARGE-SCALE FDN ATTACK ON OCOTAL REPORTED

PA260058 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2340 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FDN) opposition group announced here today that its task forces have launched an offensive against the city of Ocotal. An FDN spokesman in Tegucigalpa told ACAN-EFE that the operation is called "Marathon," and that its ultimate goal is to gain total control of the city. According to the source, "the fighting, which is now taking place in four neighborhoods in the city of Ocotal, is difficult, but we know that we have inflicted many casualties on the Sandinist People's Army."

The FDN spokesman added that the action is being carried out under the leadership of Field Commander "Bisach," who managed to concentrate various task forces in the area in order to proceed with the operation. The source did not specify the exact number of troops participating in Operation "Marathon," but indicated that more than 1,000 FDN members were involved in the fighting. According to reports from the area of fighting, received in Tegucigalpa by the FDN Public Relations Office, "the fighting began this morning, and by noon the Sandinist positions were growing weak, in view of the attackers' strength and firing accuracy."

MINISTRY REPORTS CUSTOMS POST 'DESTROYED' BY FDN

PA270244 Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] Managua, 26 Sep (AFP) -- Official sources have reported that the El Espino customs post, one of the two most important posts along the Nicaraguan-Honduran border, was attacked and destroyed today by Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FDN) guerrillas. According to Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reports, the customs post was attacked at 0530 (1130 GMT) by about 150 counterrevolutionaries, who used 120-mm mortars and rifle fire.

The Foreign Ministry reported that the fighting continued as of this afternoon. It said that an unspecified number of Honduran troops supported the operation against El Espino and that the Honduran Army had deployed a light tank that was aiming toward Nicaraguan territory, thus "confirming the alliance and coordination that have been established with the counterrevolutionaries."

The Nicaraguan Government demanded that the Honduran authorities "stop this new act of aggression," which will probably lead to new diplomatic confrontations. Initial reports did not mention casualties, nor did they say whether any civilian positions had been attacked or if any of the vehicles used at the customs post had been damaged.

It was also reported that the Las Manos customs post, about 40 km east of El Espino, remained closed today. No reasons were given for this. The Foreign Ministry also reported that another attack was launched against the town of Santa Maria, in Nueva Segovia Department. The Sandinist People's Army (EPS) repelled the attackers, "forcing them to return to Honduras."

The FDN attacked El Espino on Sunday morning. The EPS also repelled that attack, inflicting 6 dead on the rebel group and recovering 27 Claymore mines, which were to be used in economic sabotage activities, according to the official report.

The Defense Ministry has not yet provided further details on the operations in the northern part of the country, where 2,000 counterrevolutionaries are believed to be operating.

ANTIJUNTA FDN FORCES CLAIM 202 ARMY CASUALTIES

PA231535 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1456 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The offensive by the "Christian guerrillas" of the "Nicaraguan Democratic Force" (FDN) in Jinotega, northern Nicaragua, has inflicted 202 casualties on the Nicaraguan Army, the rebel radio station "15 September" reported today.

The radio station emphasized the "success" of the method of guerrilla warfare being used by its commandos in the region, especially on the part of the "Rafaela Herrera" task force led by former Sandinist Commander "Tigrillo."

The "Rafaela Herrera" task force, the rebel station explained, fought the enemy successfully in Kilambe, El Cedro, Agua Sarca, La Pita, El Carmen, Iosintal and Waslaito.

"15 September" announced that there will be an intensification soon of the activities of the FDN commandos in western Nicaragua, which will permit the opening of six war fronts in the country.

MANAGUA REPORTS CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON REBELS

BARRICADA Reports 11 Killed

PA211507 Managua International Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Sep 83

[Text] In today's issue, BARRICADA reports that 11 counterrevolutionaries, including one of their commanders known as "Eagle," were killed by the Sandinist People's Army. The invaders were surprised by the Sandinist forces while trying to enter Nicaragua along the San Juan River in the southeastern part of the country. As a result of the action, a large quantity of war materiel was taken from the raiders.

20 Dead in Clashes

PA241610 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] On 20 September, the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] killed 13 counterrevolutionaries in clashes that took place in the southern part of Zelaya Department and in Jinotega Department.

A few days ago, our border patrols and militias clashed with counterrevolutionaries who were trying to invade our country from Honduras. Our forces killed seven counterrevolutionaries and seized several AK rifles, one 60-mm mortar, 2 RPG-7 rocket launchers, and military supplies. This clash took place in the El Coyolito zone, near San Jose de Bocay.

Nine Rebels Killed in Attacks

PA262234 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Nine counterrevolutionaries were killed yesterday in attacks on El Espino, Mozonte, and Yalaguina. Sandinist Armed Forces troops repelled a counterrevolutionary attack on El Espino, Madriz Department, early Sunday morning. They seized a large amount of explosives from the counterrevolutionaries. Three counterrevolutionaries were killed and 27 Claymore mines, 3 FAL rifles, 1 Uzi, 400 FAL cartridges, and 48 clips were taken.

Six more counterrevolutionaries were killed in attacks on Mozonte and Yalaguina, Nueva Segovia Department. The rest of the counterrevolutionaries withdrew from the area. The attacks took place at about 1100. The Army sustained three casualties, two from the Border Guard Troops and one member of the Sandinist Peoples Militias.

ARDE'S PASTORA VOWS INCREASED AERIAL BOMBINGS

PA261917 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1644 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Mountains of Nicaragua, 26 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, the military leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), today announced that aerial bombings of various parts of Nicaraguan territory will be intensified with the aim of overthrowing the current government in Managua.

Commander "Cero" this morning stated that he is certain the current Managua government will be defeated, "even if it takes a year." With that intent, he added, the operation "Turn Toward the Sun" will be intensified with new and better aircraft ARDE is about to receive, although he did not specify their origin.

According to the rebel commander, ARDE aircraft operate from secret camps within the 3,000 sq km of territory in its control, from the great lake to the Atlantic Coast.

Regarding the current military situation, Commander Cero affirmed that the Costa Rican Government has caused more harm than the government of Managua. "The Costa Rican Public Security Ministry has imprisoned 70 of my men, confiscated 15 of our boats, which we used to control the border zone of the San Juan River, and stripped us of 60 rifles, 7 outboard motors, and hundreds of kilos of ammunition and foodstuffs."

Pastora, who spoke to international newsmen yesterday afternoon and this morning, announced that he will soon visit South America and the United States to explain to the world that the ARDE revolutionary columns "have extended their territorial control over almost 4,000 sq km of Nicaraguan territory."

The commander defined the geographic position of ARDE's columns as "more than 50 enclaves, where some 3,700 well-armed and trained men move, with high morale, striking out violently at the militia and soldiers of the so-called Sandinist People's Army [EPS]."

Furthermore, according to the ARDE military leader, ARDE has two twin engine aircraft that are bombing military positions near Managua, and it is about to obtain 12 more "older aircraft that will be repaired and converted into gunships to strike at the very heart of the enemy's military stronghold."

While Commander Pastora spoke to newsmen from various countries, reports were received in another part of the camp about the military operations taking place. Commander Tadeo, who heads the General Ramon Raudales Column, ambushed a 20-member EPS patrol near El Castillo, wiping it out in a crossfire in the "Death to the King" operation.

ARDE LEADER EXPLAINS POLITICAL PROGRAM

PA220443 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0039 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] San Jose, 21 Sep (DPA) -- Jose Davila Membreno, a member of the political leadership of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), has proposed a political program for Nicaragua that is different from Somozism and Sandinism and that has been described as a "third path" for that country. Davila Membreno, exiled in Costa Rica, announced at a news conference in San Jose that this program is characterized by "an 'effective' ideological pluralism, a mixed production sector -- co-owned and privately owned companies -- and a truly nonaligned policy."

He also said that ARDE advocates a thorough agrarian reform that is "not state oriented" and that makes peasants owners. He rejected any alignment with the superpowers. Refering to U.S. policy in the area, he noted that "the Americans must understand that the underdeveloped nations have the right to build a political system that eliminates injustice." "They must learn that it is not enough to have obedient or imposed regimes," Davila Membreno stressed.

The opposition leader remarked that ARDE needs the aid of democratic countries for the project, but added that although they are willing to accept this aid, it must be without any conditions. He said that ARDE has received assistance from international democratic groups, which he did not identify but denied that they had received cooperation from the U.S. Government.

REACTION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S SPEECH AT UN

FL262057 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] In a speech before the 38th session of the United Nations, the U.S. President gave an impression of ambiguity and demogoguery which was very difficult to surpass. The U.S. chief executive, in a 25-minute speech, praised the alleged contributions of past U.S. administrations to the United Nations, attacked the Soviet Union, and tried to justify the arms race initiated by his administration.

Referring to the USSR, Mr Reagan called Lenin's fatherland the empire of the East, and said the United States is the champion of freedoms, in truly demagogic boasting. To reinforce his views, Reagan cited statements by two presidents with poor historic records, Teddy Roosevelt and Eisenhower, with which he confirmed his imperialist and warmongering beliefs.

Close to the UN building, there were three demonstrations against the U.S. President's speech before the General Assembly. The U.S. chief executive arrived at the United Nations under very strict security measures.

According to his capricious speech, the United States seeks peace and support, what he called, the defense of UN interests. [as received] Referring to the arms race, Reagan dared to ask the USSR to act responsibly in the Geneva negotiations, and called the MX and cruise missiles necessary replacements for old U.S. arms in the European continent. His repeated attacks against the USSR concluded with accusations related to the South Korean aircraft incident.

Alluding to those nations which do not join the pro-U.S. chorus at the United Nations, President Ronald Reagan said it was necessary to reestablish the moral authority of the organization. Referring to the Nonaligned Countries Movement, the U.S. President barked at those nations which, according to his government, do not assume a position compatible with U.S. policy. He asserted that the United Nations has been penetrated by elements foreign to the organization's principles.

Reagan's so-called concern for the United Nations is demonstrated by a reduction in the U.S. quota of financial support for the institution, which was recently approved by the U.S. Congress.

Briefly referring to Central America, Reagan said his government was facing foreign aggression, calling that region a part of the U.S. sphere of influence, but avoided mentioning the guerrillas and the fleet stationed beyond the Nicaraguan coastline.

SOLIDARITY WITH C.A. ROUND TABLE CONCLUDES

FL230200 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The International Roundtable in Solidarity With Central America concluded its sessions today at the main offices of the MINSAP [Ministry of Public Health]. Like yesterday, the meeting stood out for its enormous show of solidarity on the part of representatives of the Jose Marti International Brigade with the peoples of Central America and their revolutionary vanguard.

The closing of the meeting was presided over by Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of our party Politburo; Mario Rodriguez, first vice president of the ICAP [Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples]; other officials; and by representatives of Central American liberation movements.

The final declaration, which was unanimously approved, was read by Javier Hernandez, member of the Leon, Spain Committee in Solidarity With El Salvador. The declaration pledged the commitment of the brigade members to promote the most militant solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of the region for their right to a worthy future and a free homeland.

In his closing speech, Mario Rodriguez said that the struggle waged in any country of the world is a significant demonstration of our solidarity with the peoples of Europe.

A special session of the international round table in solidarity with Central America was held this afternoon. Participating in that session were representatives of the FMLN in Cuba and relatives, and former Salvadoran and Guatemalan political prisoners.

One of the testimonies was given by Gladys Ayala, member of the Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Political Prisoners and Disappeared Persons in El Salvador, who denounced the regime's false amnesty and talked about the 3,843 persons murdered in her country from January through July of this year.

Another moving testimony was that of Soledad Guzman, who was imprisoned for 2 years in Salvadoran jails where she was subjected to countless types of torture which left her almost blind. She also talked about the rape of her two daughters and the torture of her 5-month-old grandson in her presence.

CIENFUEGOS HEADS DELEGATION TO NICARAGUA

PA260327 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Osmani Cienfuegos, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Council of Ministers Secretariat, is leading a delegation from our country to Nicaragua to participate in the new working sessions of the two governments' mixed commission on cooperation.

On Monday, Cienfuegos and his delegation will hold an initial session with their Nicaraguan counterparts to study the results of the first year of the two nations' trade agreement.

Accompanied by Jaime Wheelock, Nicaraguan minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform, the visiting delegation toured the Tipitapa-Malacatoya agricultural and industrial center, where Cuba is helping to build a modern sugarmill.

COMMENTARY CITES GROWING OPPOSITION IN URUGUAY

PA251817 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The ruling military regime in Uruguay is feeling the increasing pressure of the popular masses demanding a return to democracy and respect for human rights. The discontent of the workers, students, housewives, and other social sectors has exceeded the allowed limits and become a strong, antidictatorial, opposition force intent on wiping out fascism in Uruguay.

The defeat of the military dictatorship in the 1980 and 1982 plebiscites seems to have triggered frequent mass demonstrations in the country. For example, the people's emphatic rejection of attempts to amend the Constitution and impose official candidates in so-called internal elections of the legal political parties served as the catalyst to reactivate the struggle of the masses, whose combativeness and determination are being felt today by the fascist military.

Popular discontent increased with the regime's recent restrictions on political parties and freedom of the press. As opposition forces charged, these measures are aimed at further disrupting the sociopolitical climate and creating chaos and mistrust among the citizens. It is clear that the restrictions on politicians and the press are a result not only of the failure of the talks on constitutional revision, but also of the regime's disastrous economic policy, which has led the country to the brink of bankruptcy with the ensuing sequel of inflation, unemployment, high cost of living, and poverty. Hence, the increasing street demonstrations and other antidictatorial demonstrations.

Last Friday, all labor activities in Uruguay were paralyzed for 10 minutes as part of the protest demonstrations demanding more wages and job sources from the regime. The protest was called by the Workers Interunion Plenum composed of some 50 Uruguayan labor organizations, which delivered a demand to Labor Minister Luis Crisci for freedom and amnesty for imprisoned political and labor leaders.

Diverse social media in Uruguay declared that last Friday's demonstration was the first response by the workers to the recent economic measures passed by the tyranny, which increased the price of fuel and basic public services. At the same time, preparations are being made to hold the second national protest demonstration this Sunday, when there will be blackouts throughout the nation and the beating of pots and metal objects. The new protest demonstration against the regime was called by the Blanco, Colorado, and Civic Union parties, the only parties permitted to exist by the fascist authorities. The antidictatorial demonstrations by the Uruguayan people show that all sectors of the population, who have seen their liberties curtailed by fascist repression, are directing their path of struggle with hope, organization, and unity to secure the return of democracy and definitive liberty in the fatherland of Artigas.

ANPP DELEGATION OFF TO MEXICO FOR VISIT

FL262212 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] At the invitation of the Senate of the United Mexican States, a delegation of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] has departed for Mexico. The delegation is headed by the assembly president, Flavio Bravo Pardo, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee, and formed by Deputies Hipolito Ramon Rodriguez Migollo, president of Sancti Spiritus' Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, Homero de la Paz Valdes of Cienfuegos, and Jose Antonio [word indistinct] Moa of Havana City.

The delegation will hold talks and exchange experiences with the Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies as well as fulfill a broad program of activities.

MINFAR DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO POLAND

FL261437 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1315 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Warsaw -- A Cuban Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [MINFAR] delegation headed by Division General Sixto Batista Santana has ended a 5-day visit to Poland.

Sixto Batista Santana, who is also vice minister of the MINFAR and alternate member of party's Politburo, was received in Warsaw by (Kazimierz Wawrzynowski) [name and title as heard] member of the Politburo and secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, who briefed him on the country's social and economic situation.

During his visit to Poland, Sixto Batista Santana and his party visited military units, schools, and several factories. They also held talks with General Florian Siwicki, chief of the Polish Army's General Staff, and General [Jozef Barela], chief of the political section.

BULGARIAN, AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTERS DEPART

FL261238 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Excerpt] After completing their program of activities during their stay with us, the foreign ministers of Bulgaria and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Petur Mladenov and Shah Mohammad Dost, respectively, departed Cuba for the United Nations.

DPRK TRADE DELEGATION ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS

FL262314 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The DPRK governmental trade delegation headed by Vice Foreign Trade Minister Han Su-kil has departed for its country via air.

At the airport to see the visitors off were Vice Foreign Trade Minister Andres Yebra Garcia, DPRK Ambassador to Cuba Pak Yong-ae, and other offcials of the DPRK Embassy.

During its stay in our country, the delegation signed a protocol on 1984 trade between the two countries.

CUBA-DENMARK ECONOMIC TALKS OPEN IN HAVANA

FL270102 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 83

[Text] The fourth Cuba-Denmark Joint Industrial Economic Commission has begun talks at the protocol hall of the Sierra Maestra Hotel.

The Danish delegation is headed by Mr [Hans Barpuel], president of the Danish Economic-Industrial Cooperation Committee, and the Cuban by Raul Taladrid, director of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

These meetings are held every year in each country alternately to examine the progress of economic cooperation between the two countries.

Also participating in the meeting are Mrs [O. Lekoj] of the Danish Foreign Ministry, [Niels Neustrup], charge d'affaires of the Danish Embassy, Raul Torres, chief of department in the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and Alfredo Giscard, economic adviser of the Cuban Embassy in Denmark.

RAUL CASTRO OPENS FAR SCHOOL IN CIEGO DE AVILA

FL240120 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the party Central Committee and minister of the FAR, has opened the Camilo Cienfuegos Military School in Ciego de Avila on the 17th anniversary of the founding of these institutions.

At the ceremony, the FAR minister presented the flag to the newly inaugurated military school and to the Camilo Cienfuegos Military School of Holguin, which won national vanguard status.

Rogelio [Fis], hero of the harvest, gave the second secretary of our party a check for 289,903 pesos for the Territorial Militia Troops. The keynote speech was delivered by Comrade Rafael Valdes Valdes, first secretary of the Ciego de Avila Provincial Committee.

The new military center, with a capacity for 600 students, allows for the training of our young men to complete their various military careers in the FAR's higher education centers and abroad. The special classrooms, infantry firing range, library, and other facilities allow for the young men's training in theoretical as well as practical subjects. A large recreational area also facilitates student participation in sports such as swimming, basketball, and athletic events, which contribute to their physical training. The Camilo Cienfuegos military schools constitute a strong link in the defense of our fatherland.

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR CARIBBEAN SEA POLLUTION

PA252000 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Cuba has accused the United States of conducting transshipping operations involving its large tankers in the Caribbean Sea, increasing the level of contamination and risking further accidents in the area. Cuban Vice Minister of Transportation Serafin Fernandez, speaking at the closing session of an international symposium on marine contamination held in Havana, criticized the U.S. intention to turn the Caribbean into a radioactive waste dump, a practice that seriously threatens seabeds and coasts.

At the meeting, attended by more than 200 Latin American and Caribbean advisers, delegates, and guests, the Cuban official referred to the serious menace posed by contamination of the Caribbean Sea, through which 5 million barrels of hydrocarbons are shipped daily. He also noted that the 73 refineries operating in the area process 12 million tons of hydrocarbons on a daily basis. The symposium highlighted the success of the UN program designed to train Cuban experts in the cleaning and maintenance of Havana Bay, the largest in the area. On this topic, Fernandez voiced Cuba's willingness to offer its experience in that field to such other nations as may require it.

487 STUDENTS TRAINING TO TEACH IN ANGOLA

FL151839 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] What used to be the Santiago Figueroa Cruz Basic Secondary School now houses the school of the fifth contingent of the Ernesto Che Guevara Internationalist Teachers Detachment, which will collaborate in the sister nation of Angola. The school, located in the Municipality of San Antonio de los Banos, in addition to being a school, is a place where solidarity is part of the atmosphere and where the qualities which characterize our youth are highly valued.

A total of 487 students began their 3d year in the principal profession, education. In 1 more year they will pass the subjects corresponding to the 3d and 4th year and then leave for Angola. In additon to the courses corresponding to their respective specialities, they will learn Portuguese and receive classes on Angolan history. They will teach classes in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, geography, and social sciences. Although their average age is 20 and they will receive their first experience as teachers with Angolan students, their disposition and education are such that they, like those of the previous contingents, will once more demonstrate the internationalist work of the Cubans.

GRENADA

BISHOP OFF ON OFFICIAL VISITS TO HUNGARY, CSSR

FL262107 Bridgetown CANA in English 2025 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Sep 26, CANA -- Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop left today with Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman for official visits to Hungary and Czechoslovakia, the government-owned "Radio Free Grenada" said.

The radio said Bishop and Whiteman would be joining Agriculture Minister George Louison and an advance team of technicians who are already in Eastern Europe holding discussions with government officials.

The Grenada prime minister is expected to hold talks with the leaders of both countries with a view to deepening cooperation between the parties, governments, and peoples of Grenada, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia, it added.

A senior government official said the prime minster is expected to be away for about eight days.

The visit, the radio said, is at the invitation of the ruling communist parties and governments in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Bishop has already visited the Soviet Union, East Germany, and Bulgaria since his left-wing New Jewel Movement ousted the Eric Gairy government in a March 13, 1979 coup.

HAITI

DUVALIER DECREES RETIREMENT FOR EIGHT COLONELS

PA250357 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2347 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (EFE) -- President Jean Claude Duvalier has decreed the retirement of eight Armed Forces colonels.

Prosper Avril, one of the most important members of the Palace Guard, and Acedius St Louis, former commander of the Leopards, are among those retired.

Claude Dorsanville, Louis Tony Fils, Leon Achille, Gerard Lacrette, Gabriel Pinson, and Eritz Romelus are the others.

The announcement was made during a dinner celebrating the 26th anniversary of the Duvalier family's rule in Haiti.

Jean-Marie Chanoine, secretary of the Presidency, Information and Public Relations, told Duvalier during the dinner that if he should ever decide to step down from power, "the masses would surround the palace to demand that he remain."

With this speech, Chanoine was defending eleven politicians, including himself, whom the newspaper LE PETIT SAMEDI SOIR has announced as possible successors to Duvalier.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

COMMONWEALTH MINISTERS DIVIDED ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Nigeria's Masi on Third World

AB221315 Lagos NAN in English 1245 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] Lagos, Sep 22 (NAN) -- The minister of finance, Victor Masi, yesterday in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, blamed the economic problems presently facing developing countries on the monetary policies of their developed counterparts. Speaking at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Conference currently holding at the Trinidadian capital, Mr Masi suggested that for developing countries to extricate themselves from the present situation, there was need for progressive modifications in the existing structure of trade and financial relationships within the context of the North-South dialogue.

He said in a speech released in Lagos today that per capita income had fallen in Third World countries while prices of their export commodities had reached their lowest levels in three decades. To bridge the colossal losses in foreign exchange earnings, most developing countries had become active borrowers in the international capital market, therefore falling prey to manipulations and control by outside forces, the minister said. He added that the exorbitant and onerous terms and conditions of loans created new problems for Third World countries, which in turn affected their domestic economies.

UK Against New Order

FL231103 Bridgetown CANA in English 2319 GMT 23 Sep 83

[By Rudi Williams]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sep 22, CANA -- British Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Nigel Lawson said here today London does not agree with a Commonwealth-commissioned report on reforming the world's economic problems, [which] apart from the recession were due to weaknesses in the system. Lawson told reporters during a break in the Commonwealth finance ministers meeting here that the report was valuable, but Britain does not support its recommendation of a new international economic order.

He felt its value was in the attention paid to several vital issues, saying it contained a number of proposals with which he could "wholly" agree. However, he felt he had to differ with the report on its assumption of a need for global structural changes in the world economic system.

"The main problem with the report, as I see it, is that it does tend to assume that the many problems which undoubtedly face the world today in the financial sphere, in so far as they are not due to the cycle, the world recession we are now coming out of.... They must be due to weaknesses in the system and therefore we need a completely new international financial system," Lawson said. He added: "I don't think that is the case at all. I don't think it is the case, for example, that certain countries got excessively in debt is a weakness of the system."

Rather, the British finance minister believed that the problems arising from the aftermath of the world oil "shock" (of vastly increased prices) was a weakness of the system.

As far as he was concerned, the system on the whole "works reasonably well," and he expressed strong doubts about the group's ability to devise "from scratch" a better system than the existing one, whose pillar institutions are the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

Lawson argued that since these institutions were not "set in concrete" at the end of the Bretton Woods Conference, they had been evolving in all the intervening years and had changed to meet the world's changing problems.

As an alternative to the restructuring proposal, he suggested an approach to find in "a very practical, piecemeal fashion" ways in which the operations of these institutions could be improved. "The best thing to do now, in my opinion, is to take this into the context of the institutions themselves," he said, "so we can involve other countries of the world whose agreement to any changes is vital, particularly, of course, the United States."

Asked about conference reaction to his stand, the British minister said while there were countries that disagreed with him, "there was no hostility." He said he had found some support here (Canada also disagrees) and he expected the United States to do likewise.

Conference Ends; 'One of Best'

FL231106 Bridgetown CANA in English 0014 GMT 23 Sep 83

[By Albert Brandford]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sep 22, CANA -- Commonwealth finance ministers who wrapped up their annual two-day meeting here tonight, agreed on the need for important changes in the world's financial and trading system, but without concensus on exactly how to proceed.

The ministers from more than 40 countries that account for about a third of the world's population, agreed on the need for a more integrated approach to the issues of more finance and trade, according to the draft communique. But it said these were matters of great political importance requiring careful consideration by the international community at the highest level.

The communique reflected the divergence of views on the recommendations of the main conference document -- a report calling for a new Bretton Woods type international meeting to remove the structural causes of the crisis in the world economy. It was at Bretton Woods in the American state of New Hampshire in 1944 that the current world financial and trading system was devised including proposals for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Chairman of the conference, host Prime Minister George Chambers, spoke of the "spirit of compromise" that pervaded the meeting, which was described by Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal as "one of the best in a long series" of such gatherings. Chambers disclosed that Canada will be the host of the next finance ministers meeting in 1984. He has been mandated, according to the communique, to convey to his colleagues at the Commonwealth summit in New Delhi in November the essence of discussions here on the report which they commended to the heads.

Ramphal said that the meeting was a thoroughly satisfactory one which augured well for next week's joint annual conference of the IMF and the World Bank in Washington as well as for the New Delhi summit.

Ramphal stressed that while the ministers did not take a decision to hold a Bretton Woods type conference next week or next month, they did stress that such a conference would be the culmination of the process of achieving the objectives set out in the original Bretton Woods document.

Communique Issued

FL231735 Bridgetown CANA in English 1521 GMT 23 Sep 83

["Text" of communique issued at the conclusion of a meeting of Commonwealth finance ministers in Port-of-Spain on 22 September 1983]

[Text] 1. Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sep 23, CANA -- Commonwealth finance ministers held their annual meeting in Port of Spain on 21 and 22 September 1983. The meeting was opened and chaired by the Hon George Chambers, prime minister and minister of finance and planning, Trinidad and Tobago.

World Economic Situation:

2. Ministers reviewed developments in the world economy since their last meeting against the background of the analysis and conclusions presented in the report of the Commonwealth study group entitled "Towards a New Bretton Woods" and the recent reports of various international organisations, including the World Bank and the IMF. They welcomed the considerable progress achieved in reducing inflation and the emergence of recovery in some industrial countries from the longest recession in the world economy since the great depression of the 1930's. They noted, however, that in many industrial countries the prospects for recovery were still far from firmly established and unemployment was still increasing; in most developing countries, real per capita incomes have declined for three years in a row, development efforts have been disrupted, and economic prospects remained especially grim. Persistent high real interest rates, volatile exchange rates, the precarious debt situation, protectionism, virtual stagnation in the flow of development assistance, and adverse terms of trade were among the factors which continued to retard progress towards strong and durable growth in many countries.

3. Ministers regarded lower interest rates, reduced barriers to trade, and increased external resources to support adjustment and encourage investment in the developing countries as crucial factors in sustainable recovery. They called upon all governments, particularly the major industrial countries, to show greater concern for the international consequences of their domestic actions, especially those causing interest rates to remain at high levels. This would be a recognition of growing interdependence. There was a need for greater policy consistency and for enhanced international co-operation to strengthen the recovery, to promote economic development, and to secure longer-term improvements in the functioning of the international financial and trading system.

4. Ministers reaffirmed nonetheless their view that continuing efforts to curb inflation and inflationary expectations as well as to promote structural changes in all countries were essential for a sustained improvement in the world economy.

5. Ministers noted that international co-operative action had succeeded so far in averting a major upheaval in the international financial system arising out of indebtedness, and that accompanying strenuous adjustment efforts involved heavy economic and social costs for debtor countries. They recognised that continuing international efforts were required to alleviate the acute balance of payments and debt servicing problems of developing countries, and especially to maintain financial flows to countries that faced critical liquidity shortages. They stressed the importance of securing adjustment with growth. In this connection they regarded improved export earnings of developing countries as essential for helping to meet their financial problems, as well as to enable them to secure their long-term development goals.

Towards a new Bretton Woods:

6. Ministers welcomed the report "Towards a New Bretton Woods: Challenges for the World Financial and Trading System" for which they called at their previous meeting. The background, as explained in the communique of that meeting, was the urgent need, in view of the vast politico-economic changes which had taken place since the establishment of the Bretton Woods institutions, for a new overall examination of the international trade and payments system as a whole, and in particular the role of the international economic institutions. They regarded the report as a major contribution to the ongoing search for answers to the wide range of issues with which it dealt. They congratulated the study group on the high quality of their unanimous report.

7. Ministers noted that the report contained far-reaching recommendations of a short and long-term character. They felt that the short-term issues should be taken up by them at the forthcoming annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF. It concerned the general thrust of the report for serious consideration by the Commonwealth countries in particular and the international community in general.

8. Accordingly requested the secretary-general to seek the widest possible circulation and discussion of the report. In that context they discussed ways to add further impetus to efforts to promote multilateral economic co-operation.

9. Ministers gave particular attention to the question of follow-up to the report, including the recommendations on the process which it contains. They welcomed the view that the call for a "new Bretton Woods" should be seen as a need for renewed work towards shared international objectives requiring the most careful preparation. An international conference could be the culmination of the process. They agreed on the need for a more integrated approach to interrelated issues of money, or finance. And they also agreed that these were matters of great political importance requiring careful consideration by the international community at the highest level.

10. On this basis they commended the report to the Commonwealth heads of government at their meeting in November in New Delhi and requested the prime minister and minister of finance and planning of Trinidad and Tobago to convey to his colleagues in New Delhi the essence of the discussions in Port-of-Spain.

Development Finance:

11. Ministers noted with concern the deterioration in aid climate in some countries, including the tying of previously united aid. They considered that special efforts were required to arrest the situation. In this context, ministers stressed the importance of maximising aid flows, particularly to the least developed countries, and recalled the substantial new programme of action agreed at the Paris Conference in 1981. They urged donors to make renewed efforts to reach internationally agreed targets, especially as their own economic recovery proceeds more satisfactorily.

12. Ministers emphasised the substantial role of multilateral institutions in expanding the net flow of resources to developing countries. They noted with concern some signs of erosion of international support for these institutions. They agreed to exert all efforts at this critical juncture to ensure that the institutions obtain adequate resources to expand their operations. Such an expanded role would improve development prospects and the health of the international financial system. Ministers also emphasised the role of private flows, including direct investment, and the need for both developed and developing countries to facilitate such flows to developing countries, consistent with national priorities.

World Bank:

13. Ministers noted the important role of IDA in the development efforts of the low income and least developed countries. They called on doners to meet their commitments to the IDA VI replenishment expeditiously and urged that all contributions tc IDA VI be completed in the Bank's financial year 1984.

14. Ministers stressed the need for IDA VII negotiations to be completed as soon as possible to ensure that the seventh replenishment becomes effective by July 1, (?1984). The negotiations should take into account the need to accommodate an expanded recipient community and the critical importance of enhancing the growth prospects of developing countries. Ministers pledged their countries to play a positive role in efforts toward this end. They invited the minister of finance of Canada, Mr Marc Lalonde, to convey on their behalf, at the forthcoming meeting of the (?World Bank and IMF), the strength of their support for the IDA seventh replenishment.

15. Ministers welcomed the recently announced special action programme of the World Bank group to boost disbursements over the next few years. At the same time, it was essential to expand the Bank's lending programme to achieve the five per cent real growth target for its near-term commitments. In this context, ministers looked forward to early agreement on a selective capital increase necessary to support an expanded programme and in keeping with traditional practice following the IMF quota increase.

IMF:

16. Ministers welcomed the substantial efforts being made by the fund in providing balance of payments support to many developing countries. They also noted that the IMF was in a key position to help maintain credit flows and ensure orderly debt rescheduling and appropriate adjustment policies. Ministers emphasised the importance of the eighth quota increase and the expanded general arrangements to borrow being effected by early 1984. They urged those countries which had not already done so to ratify the agreement on the eighth review of quotas. Ministers also stressed the urgent need, in the meantime, to ensure that the fund obtained the necessary financing to meet existing commitments. They called upon all industrial countries and countries in surplus to provide the IMF promptly with the required resources.

17. In order to assure the strengthened role of the fund in promoting adjustment and in associated balance of payments financing, ministers agreed on the need to preserve adequate access following the 17.5 per cent increase in quotas. They also attached particular importance to the compensatory financing facility in current circumstances. They urged that, in the review currently being undertaken, serious consideration be given to improvements in its operation.

18. Ministers noted that the current improvements in the balance-of-payments outlook of developing countries were mainly the result of severe and unavoidable cut-backs which were adversely affecting their economies. Ministers reaffirmed their view that the funds conditionally should continue to be reviewed in the light of external economic circumstances and the nature and scale of the financing and adjustment problems faced by member countries. In the present circumstances of acute and widespread economic difficulties, domestic, social, and political circumstances needed particular attention.

19. Most ministers supported an immediate and substantial allocation of SDR's in view of the continuing decline in international liquidity, the parlous state of the reserves of many developing countries, and requirements to finance the eighth quota increase. Ministers hoped that the managing director of the fund could find a consensus next week on the question of the resumption of SDR allocations.

20. Ministers stressed the importance of surveillance by the fund of fiscal, exchange rate, and interest rate policies of major industrial countries to promote greater stability in the world economy.

Functional Co-operation:

21. Ministers noted with appreciation that the new multi-year planning and pledging was contributing to the fund efficiency through improved predictabiltiy. They noted that the board of representatives would be called upon at their meeting on September 23 to ensure the second three-year planning profile, which envisaged expenditure rising from about 20 million sterling in 1983/84 to nearly 26 million sterling in 1985/86.

22. Ministers noted the recent Secretariat initiatives to provide assistance to member countries in improving their debt and financial management capability, and asked the Secretariat to work in close co-ordination with relevant international agencies for this purpose. They also looked forward to the further development of the Secretariat's capital markets programme and other activities to assist member countries in mobilising external financial resources.

23. Ministers noted the particular difficulties experienced by small countries which constitute a large part of Commonwealth membersip. They underlined the need for special measures of assistance to such countries whose small size and isolation placed them at a particular disadvantage, which restricted their prospect for economic growth. [passage indistinct]

Message to St Lucia:

24. Ministers were informed during the course of their discussions that one of the Commonwealth's small island member countries, St Lucia, suffered grave damage as a result of exceptionally high winds. They asked the secretary-general to [passage indistinct] concern and their expression of support.

Appreciation:

25. Ministers expressed their appreciation of the excellent facilities provided for the meeting by the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago and for the warm hospitality which they had enjoyed during their stay in Port-of-Spain. Ministers accepted with pleasure an invitation from the Government of Canada to meet there in 1984. Port-of-Spain 22 September, 1983.

BRAZIL

PMDB SENATOR CRITICIZES DONALD REGAN'S STATEMENT

PY270111 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Sep 83

[From the Congressional Report]

[Excerpt] PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] Senator Fabio Lucena said that the recent statement issued by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Donald Regan, is an open intervention in Brazilian domestic affairs. The U.S. Secretary of the Treasury had noted that he hates to think what will happen in Brazil if draft law 2045 is not approved.

Lucena alerted the authorities on the risks involved in allowing those who want to impose decisions on the country, that are not in keeping with national interests, to intervene in our domestic affairs. Nevertheless, Fabio Lucena agreed with Donald Regan in that Brazil's [word indistinct] is in the hands of the Brazilian Congress.

HAVANA REPORTS PROTEST DEMONSTRATION, STRIKE

PA262013 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Some 50,000 people gathered Sunday in front of the cathedral in the Brazilian city of Sao Paulo to protest the government's economic policy, as dictated by the IMF. The demonstrators protested the official decision to reduce the periodic wage increase to 80 percent of the increase in the cost of living, a measure demanded by the IMF to free up a $4.9 billion loan granted to Brazil last year.

Meanwhile, in the northern department of Pernambuco, 200,000 sugar cane workers continue striking in demand of wage increases. The sector's leaders have charged that the sugar-mill owners have created armed bands to kill or intimidate the strikers.

VENEZUELA

LEBANESE WOMEN PEACEABLY OCCUPY U.S. CONSULATE

PA231912 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1850 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Caracas, 23 Sep (DPA) -- Approximately 20 Lebanese women peaceably occupied the U.S. Consulate in Maracaibo, the Caracas newspapers reported at length today. The newspaper reports indicate that the incident occurred yesterday "in a peaceful manner" with the purpose of "publicly expressing the discontent of the Lebanese colony in Maracaibo with the way the Unied States is handling its policy toward Lebanon."

The women gave Consul Mark Boulware a document of protest. Later the consul indicated that the occupation had been "completely peaceful." The women remained at the consulate for 1 and 1/2 hours. Maracaibo is Venezuela's second most important city. In any event the security police intervened and several agents remained inside the consulate for a long time, making a thorough search in every corner for fear that the demonstrators had left behind explosive devices.